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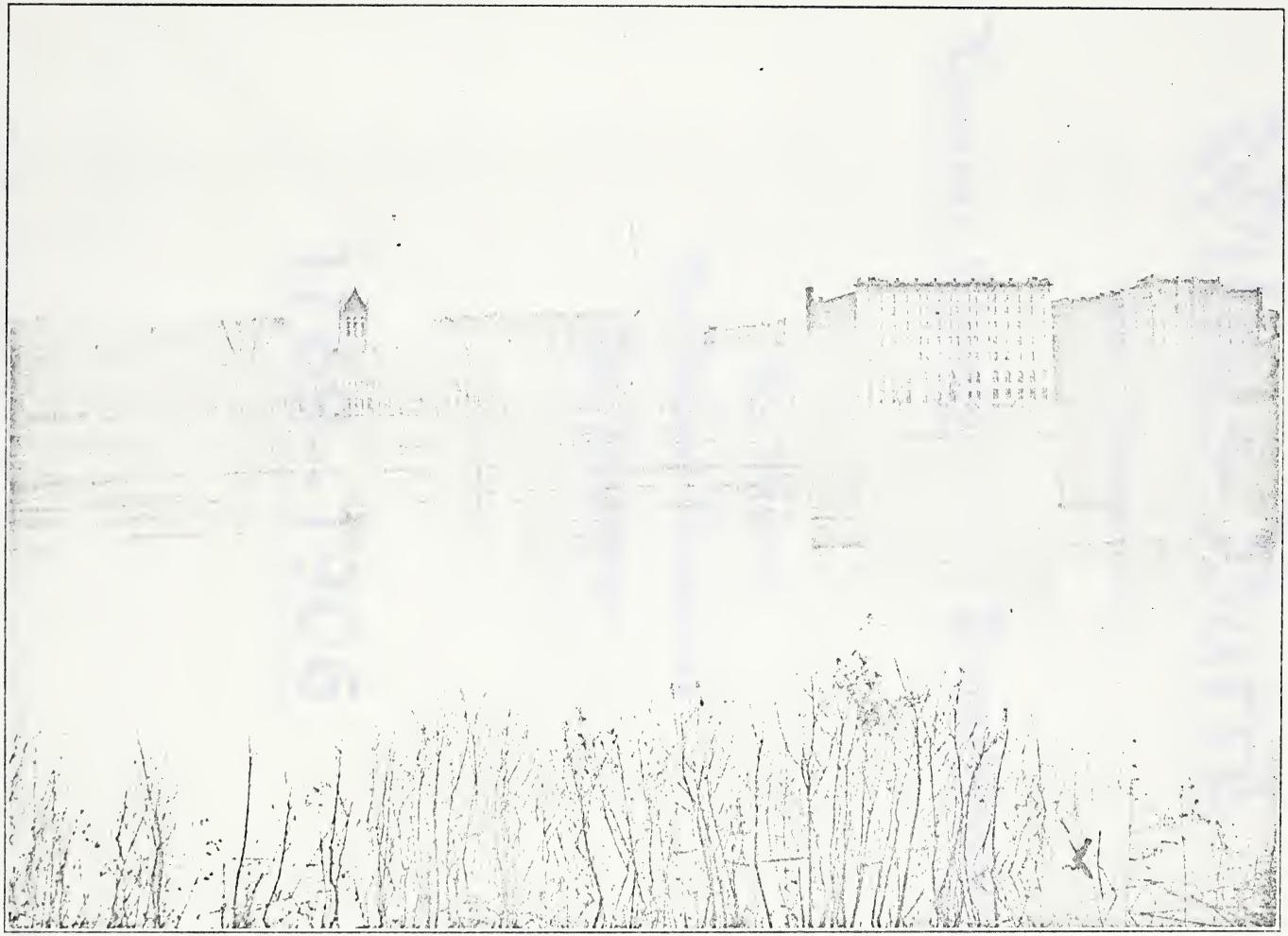

RIVER FRONT, NORTH OF MARKET STREET BRIDGE.

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Wilkes-Barré

(The "Diamond City")

Luzerne County, Pennsylvania

Its History

Its Natural Resources

Its Industries

1769--1906

"To this, we have searched it, so it is: hear it, and know thou it for thy good."

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" Is this your joyous city, whose antiquity is of ancient days? "—*Isaiah, XXIII : 7.*

"Say not thou, 'What is the cause that the former days were better than these?' for thou dost not enquire wisely concerning this."

—*Ecclesiastes, VII : 10.*

CENTENNIAL JUBILEE AND OLD HOME WEEK

MAY 10, 11 AND 12, 1906

OFFICIAL

SOUVENIR & PROGRAM

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R. Jay Flick, Chairman.

G. Adolph Baur. Oscar J. Harvey.

George A. Edwards. Thad. B. Ryman.

J. Barton Cheyney.

"When This, Our Land, Was New."

[Written for, and read at, a meeting of the Pioneer Historical Association of the Susquehanna Valley, February 22, 1855.]

"We'll wake a plain, old-fashioned muse
Upon this festal-day,
And sing of scenes and talk of times
Which long since passed away;

* * * *

And note what changes have been wrought
Since this, our land, was new.

"Ours was a brave and gallant band,
Well fitted for each toil,
And soon we let the sunbeams in
Upon the generous soil.
Strong were the hands and strong the hearts
Of that widely-gathered few,
Who conquered here old forests grand
When this, our land, was new.

"War's storm swept past, and gentle Peace
With silent blessings came,
Filling with cheerfulness our hearts
That long had known but pain;
And neighbor then to'rd neighbor
In friendship closely drew—
So we lived a band of brothers
When this, our land, was new.

"The girls all learnt to bake good bread,
While, like their spinning-wheels,
Right merry ran their sinless songs
Without piano peals;
And blithely did they dance at night,
E'en when they staid till two
(Such were the only *stays* they made),
When this, our land, was new.

"Most wore a linsey-woolsey dress
Their own sweet hands had made,
With a blue and white checked apron
That would'nt tear or fade.
The rich brocades and rustling silks
Were seldom brought to view,
Except to go to meetin' in,
When this, our land, was new.

"Five yards were ample for a dress—
Few ever asked for more,
And never trailed their skirts along
The dirty streets or floor.
They looked as neat and tidy then
As any one of you,
Who scorn the homespun that was worn
When this, our land, was new.

"Good, wholesome and substantial food
Our festive-tables crowned,
No French knick-knacks or luxuries
In our bills of fare were found;
But labor sweetened every dish,
And, what was better, too,
We needed no 'Maine Liquor Law'
When this, our land, was new.

"Millions are blest and blessing now
Where, sixty years agone,
The poor, untutored Indian roamed
A monarch and alone;
And the 'iron horse', with fire and fright,
Whirls quick the country through,
Where we wagged many a weary foot
When this, our land, was new.

"God rest them! in their last, low homes,
With all their brave compeers,
Who fought and bled, or toiled and strove,
Through weary, lingering years,
That thus their sons, in prosp'rous peace,
Could pleasantly review
The many changes Time has wrought
Since this, our land, was new."

Wilkes-Barré's History

Briefly told by

Oscar Jewell Harvey.

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"WYOMING! In thy mountain scenery yet,
All we adore of Nature in her wild
And frolic hour of infancy is met;
And never has a Summer's morning smiled
Upon a lovelier scene than the full eye
Of the enthusiast revels on, when high
Amid thy mountain solitudes he climbs,
And knows that sense of beauty which sublimes."

"War's wildest blast once rang between these hills,
And poured its savage legions like a flood
Down the green mountains. Bloody were the rills
That flow in silver now along the wood;
And the rough battle-ax was none too rude
To cleave the fairest bosoms, while the bright sky
Echoed the war-whoops of the hellish brood."

TO-DAY, just as from its first beginnings, Wilkes-Barré—this "ancient town of unique name and notable life"—is the business and social center of Wyoming Valley and certain territory adjacent to it (in earlier days commonly known as the "Wyoming region"), now overspread from end to end with towns, villages and hamlets. Therefore it is difficult to tell satisfactorily, and impossible to appreciate fully, the story of Wilkes-Barré without, at the same time, dwelling more or less on many events in the remarkably interesting history of Wyoming—a region that is widely known and has been celebrated often in prose and in poetry. In a word, the history of early Wilkes-Barré is, in a wide sense, the history of Wyoming for the same period.

The beautiful and historic valley of Wyoming—a long oval, or elliptical, basin, some sixteen miles in length, with an average breadth of three miles—is situated in north-eastern Pennsylvania; its upper, or north-eastern, end

lying in latitude 41° 21′ north, and in longitude 75° 47′ west from Greenwich. Through the whole length of the valley the North, or Main, Branch of the Susquehanna River flows a serpentine course of seventeen and one-half miles. On both sides of the river, for nearly this whole distance, lie rich and fertile alluvial bottom-lands, forming plains, or flats; at some points narrow and restricted in breadth, but at others stretching out towards the hills or mountains for at least a mile. These flats contain several thousand acres, nearly all of which are well cultivated, and have been for more than a hundred years.

On the left, or eastern, bank of the river, nearly in the center of the valley, lies Wilkes-Barré, chiefly on an oblong plain elevated from twenty-five to thirty-five feet above the surface of the river at its lowest level, and from 531 to 541 feet above mean sea-level.

From the earliest historic times the valley of Wyoming was known to the

VIEW OF WILKES-BARRÉ FROM ROSS HILL, IN 1859.

Indians of the Iroquois Confederacy, or the Five Nations (later the Six Nations), as "*Ske-han-to-wa-na,*" signifying "the great plain, or field;" while the Lenni Lenâpé, or Delaware, Indians applied the name "*Maugh-wau-wa-me*" to the valley—which name being compounded of the words *maugh-wau*, meaning "large, or extensive," and *wa-me*, meaning "plains, or meadows," may be translated "the large plains." This Lenni Lenâpé name was corrupted by the early Moravian missionaries (whose native tongue was German) into "*M'chweu-wa-mi,*" and subsequently it was changed into "*Meehayomy,*" and then into "*Qui-wau-muck*" and "*Chi-wau-muck.*" Later it was transmogrified into "*Wy-wa-mick*", which in turn was transformed by English-speaking men into "*Weyomin*", "*Woyamok*" and "*Wyomink*", and finally into "*Wyoming*"—which name the valley has borne now for more than a century and a-third. This is, of course, the *original* Wyoming—all other localities, places and objects in North America which bear the same name having derived it either primarily

or secondarily from that of the fair vale "on Susquehanna's side."

Undoubtedly the aboriginal inhabitants of Wyoming were the Indians known indiscriminately as Minquas, Gandastogués, Andastés and Susquehannocks*, forming a branch of the great Huron-Iroquois family; and they seem to have been in almost continuous warfare with the Iroquois for a number of years prior to 1675, when they were overthrown by the latter. Thenceforward, till near the last quarter of the eighteenth century, the Iroquois, or Five Nations, dominated the Wyoming region.

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LOOKING DOWN THE RIVER FROM THE SITE OF THE PRESENT CITY CEMETERY, ABOUT 1868.

In 1701 or 1702 a small band of Shawanese Indians established themselves in Wyoming Valley by invitation of the Five Nations, "who were confident that they could place no custodians more reliable than the ferocious Shawanese in charge of that lovely valley among the hills, which they designed to keep for themselves and their children forever." These Shawanese immigrated from Pequehan—on Pequea Creek, within the present limits of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania—and set up their wigwams at the eastern end of the flats, at the sharp bend of the river, within the present limits of the borough of Plymouth. This Shawanese village continued in existence until the Spring of 1749, when it was abandoned and a new site was selected on the bank of the river within the present limits of the Second Ward of Plymouth. *Pack-sha-nos,* or Paxinosa, was at that time the chief of the band.

In the meantime, early in 1728, a band of Minsi, or Monsey, Indians (a clan of the Delaware nation), under the chieftainship of *Kindassowa*, had settled near the junction of the rivers Susquehanna and Lackawanna, at the head of Wyoming Valley, and their village was known for a number of years as *Asserughney.*

About 1735 or 1736 a small band of Mohegan Indians—presumably from the Housatonic Valley in Massachusetts—settled near the Susquehanna, on the

* It is now the generally accepted opinion that the Susquehannock Indians were thus styled from the name of the river along which they lived. Ever since the Susquehanna River first became known to white men it has been called by that name—slightly modified in its spelling, however, at different periods, as for example: "Sasquehannock," "Saosquahanunk," "Sasquahann," "Susquehannock" and "Susquehannah." The name is derived from an Indian word, "*suckahanne,*" meaning "water," and its full import is "brook-stream" or "spring-water-stream."

FROM OSCAR J. HARVEY'S FORTHCOMING "HISTORY OF WILKES-BARRÉ." COPYRIGHTED.

banks of the stream later known as Abraham's Creek, in what is now Kingston Township. Subsequently they removed to what is now the Second Ward of the borough of Plymouth.

Early in the Spring of 1743 a considerable company of Delawares belonging to the Unami, or Wanamie, clan removed from the "Forks" of the Delaware River, by order of the Six Nations, and settled in the locality of what is now known as the "Firwood" tract, within the present limits of the Fifteenth Ward of Wilkes-Barré. These were the first Indians to establish themselves, in historic times, within the territory now covered by the city of Wilkes-Barré. However, they did not remain here long, for, owing to an epidemic disease which carried off a large number of the clan shortly after their arrival here, they removed later in the year to a point some six miles farther up and on the same side of the Susquehanna, in what is now Plains Township. There they established a village which at that time, or a few years later, received the name *"Matchasaung."*

In June, 1748, the population of Wyoming Valley was increased by the arrival of a band of Nanticoke Indians, numbering eighty persons, who had come up the Susquehanna in ten canoes from the mouth of the Juniata River, where they had been living since 1742. These Nanticokes erected their wigwams on the left, or south, bank of the Susquehanna, near the mouth of what is now known as Sugar Notch Creek, within the limits of the present township of Hanover.

In 1748 there was also a small band of Chickasaws, or "Flat-heads", located in the upper end of the present Plymouth Township. During many years the Iroquois carried on a fierce warfare against the Chickasaws, Cherokees, Catawbas and other southern Indians, and there is no doubt but that the Chickasaws who were dwelling in Wyoming Valley in 1748—some of whom had been here then at least six years—had been brought here as prisoners of war by Iroquois warriors on their return from a marauding expedition against the Chickasaws.

In April, 1754, some seventy so-called Christian Indians (Mohegans and Delawares) from Gnadenhütten, the Moravian Indian settlement on the Lehigh River in Northampton County, Pennsylvania, accompanied by a considerable number of heathen Delawares from the Minisinks, immigrated to Wyoming Valley under the leadership, or "kingship", of a certain *Tee-dy-us-cung,* and established themselves on the south bank of the Susquehanna, within the limits of the present Tenth Ward of Wilkes-Barré. *Teedyuscung,* who belonged to the Wanamie clan of the Delawares, was a native of New Jersey, but about 1730 he had emigrated with other members of his clan to the wild Indian country north-west of the Kittatinny Mountains, in what is now Monroe County, Pennsylvania. *Teedyuscung,* who was generally known among the

whites as "Honest John," was converted to Christianity and baptized under the name of "Gideon" by the Moravian Brethren in 1750. Prior to his removal to Wyoming he was considered by the Brethren as a member of the Gnadenhütten community, but he did not spend all his time there. He was a lusty, raw-boned Indian, haughty, and very desirous of respect and consideration, and, according to contemporary chroniclers, was capable of drinking from three quarts to one gallon of rum a day without getting drunk.

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The acquisition of Pennsylvania by the great and illustrious founder of the Commonwealth dates back but two hundred and twenty-five years. In 1680 what is now Pennsylvania was a wilderness, a scene of wild, grand and beautiful nature in its pristine garb, fresh and fair as it came from the hand of the Creator. But the white man came! Penn's charter was granted by King Charles II in 1681, and the next year the new Province of Pennsylvania came into existence. So inconsiderable were the wealth and settlements of the province in the year 1712 that William Penn offered the whole of his right to Queen Anne for £12,000. In 1753, a little more than a century and a-half ago, and nearly three-quarters of a century after its foundation, the whole Commonwealth (including the three counties now comprising the State of Delaware, which were then owned by the Pennsylvania Proprietaries) numbered only about 250,000 souls—being less than the present population of Luzerne, the third largest county of the State. Pennsylvania was hardly spoken of and but little known in England. Commerce and manufactures were unheard of within her borders but in name. The New England Colonies being older, were somewhat in advance; although the population of Connecticut at that period was only about 100,000.

In the Summer of the year last mentioned (1753) "The Susquehanna Company" was organized in Connecticut by some 250 of the inhabitants of that Colony (chiefly residents of the rocky and unfertile counties of New London and Windham), together with a few people belonging to Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania. Among these men were a number who were of considerable prominence and influence in public affairs. The objects of the organizers of the company—as set forth in the "Articles of Agreement" which they signed—were: To enlarge the "English settlements in North America" belonging to His Majesty the King of Great Britain, "further to spread Christianity," and—primarily and principally—to promote the "temporal interests" of the members of the Company by securing

RIVER FRONT, SOUTH OF MARKET STREET BRIDGE.

possession of a large "tract of land lying on Susquehanna River at or near a place called *Chi-wau-muck* [Wyoming], an island in said river."

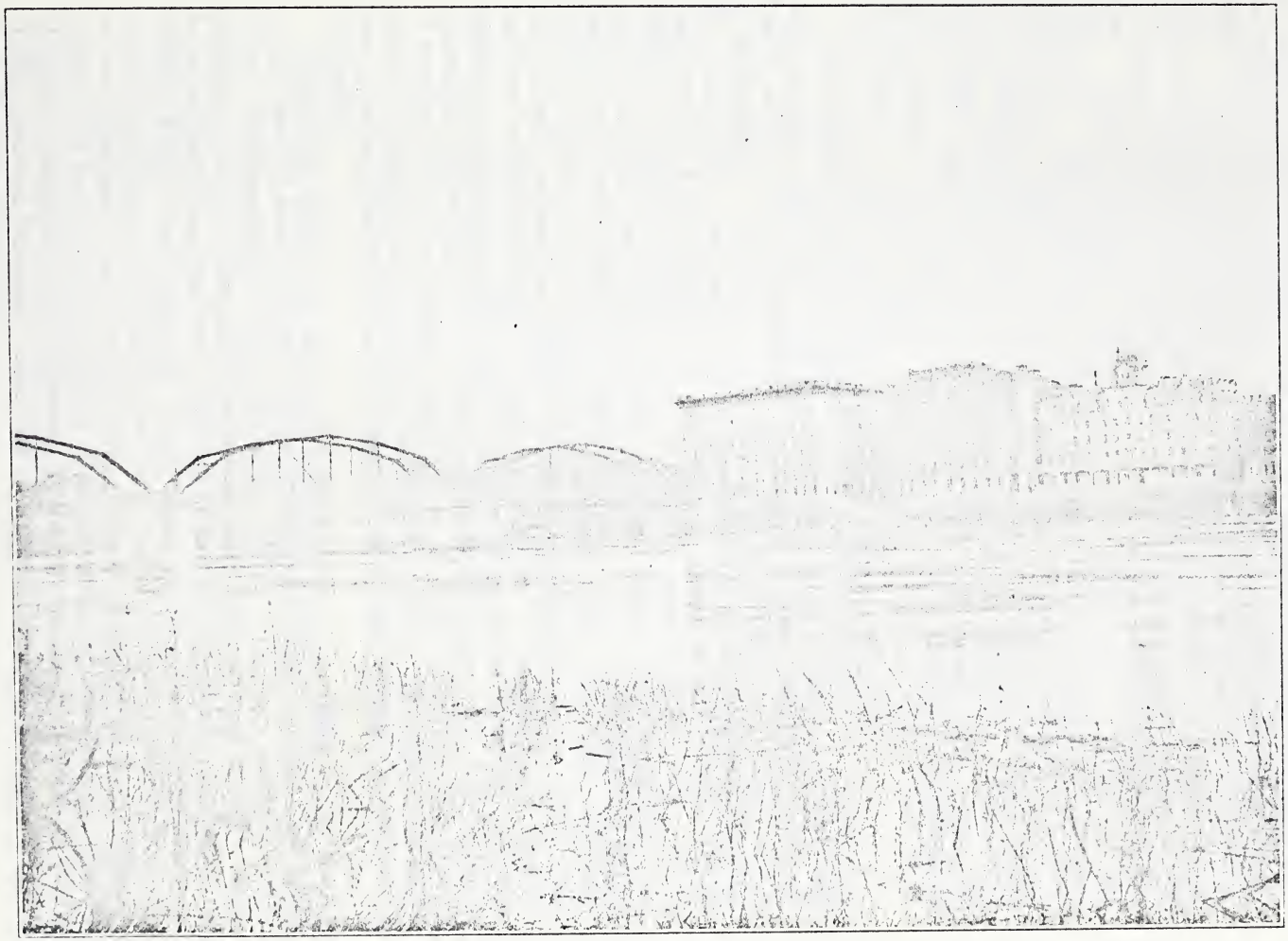
The island thus referred to is the one whose upper end lies opposite the south-west corner of Wilkes-Barré. It is the largest island in the Susquehanna in Wyoming Valley, and as early as 1787 contained fifty acres and was called Fuller's Island. Later it was known as Richards' Island. A short distance below this island, on the east bank of the river, stood, in the Summer of 1753, the "new" Shawanese village occupied by Paxinosa and his followers, as previously noted.

At that time the only villages in the valley were, as hereinbefore described, Paxinosa's; the one in the upper end of Plymouth Township occupied by a few families of Mohegans and Chickasaws; *Matchasaung*, on "Jacob's Plains," now in Plains Township, occupied by a small band of Wanamies, and *Asserughney*, the little Monsey village near the mouth of the Lackawanna. The entire population of the Nanticoke village, on the Hanover flats, had removed to the Province of New York in May, 1753. Of the several villages above mentioned Paxinosa's was by far the largest and most important, and to it, as early as 1749, the name "Wyoming" had been specifically applied by the few adventurous missionaries, traders and explorers who, from time to time during a number of years, had passed up and down the Susquehanna. This fact is evidenced, in part, by certain maps of Pennsylvania which were published in 1749 and later years.

It is quite probable that the fertile and treeless island lying near the village of the Shawanese, as previously mentioned, was cultivatd by those Indians; and thus it came about that the island, being an appurtenance of the village, was called *"Chi-wau-muck"* [Wyoming] by the organizers of The Susquehanna Company.

There were not, of course, any white people living in the Wyoming region in 1753; but the marvelous richness and beauty of the region had become pretty well known to white men in various localities through reports made by the explorers and missionaries previously referred to. Firmly believing that the Wyoming region lay within the limits of Connecticut as defined and described in its charter and grant from Charles II, King of England, the organizers of The Susquehanna Company determined to plant a colony there, and thus bring the territory within the actual jurisdiction of Connecticut. Therefore, at Albany, New York, July 11, 1754, the representatives of the Company, upon payment of £2,000 in New York currency to fourteen representative sachems, or chiefs, of the Six Nations, obtained from the latter a deed for "a large tract of land on, about and adjacent to the River Susquehanna, between the 41st and 43d degrees of north latitude, and being *within the limits and bounds of the Charter and Grant of his late Majesty Charles II to the Colony of Connecticut.*"

The Susquehanna Company, having completed their purchase of the soil from the acknowledged proprietors of the territory, proceeded to make arrangements for establishing settlements at Wyoming; possession only being necessary, in the estimation of the Company, to render their title complete. It was



MARKET STREET BRIDGE, HOTEL STERLING, HOLLENBACK COAL EXCHANGE BUILDING AND WYOMING VALLEY HOTEL, FROM THE KINGSTON SHORE OF THE RIVER.

not until late in the Summer of 1762, however, that any immigrants under the auspices of The Susquehanna Company arrived in Wyoming, and then 119 came—chiefly from Connecticut—bringing a few tools and agricultural implements. At that time the only Indians occupying the valley were the Delawares under Teedyuscung, whose village, as previously mentioned, was located within the present limits of the Tenth Ward of Wilkes-Barré, near the bend of the river. Living among these Delawares were a number of Wappingers and Mohegans, all acknowledging Teedyuscung as the head-man, or "king," of the community. The Shawanese village, Wyoming, being no longer in existence, Teedyuscung's village was known as Wyoming. It consisted chiefly of a number of substantial log houses which had been built a few years previously by the Government of Pennsylvania for Teedyuscung and his followers. The greater part of the valley was yet covered with trees and undergrowth, except for short distances around the then Wyoming, the site of the earlier Wyoming of the Shawanese, and the village of *Matchasaung* on Jacob's Plains, where clearings had been made in the trivial progress of Indian husbandry.

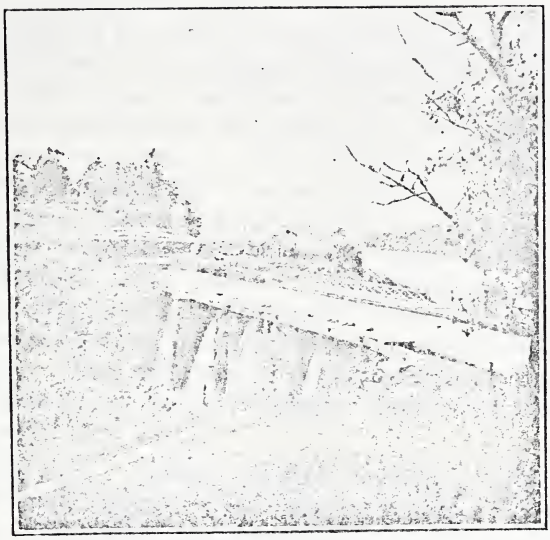
The colonists from New England took up their quarters in a number of rude log huts which they erected on the north bank of Beaver Brook—later known as Mill Creek—just beyond the present northern boundary of the city of Wilkes-Barré. In other words, this pioneer settlement of white men in Wyoming Valley was made a short distance north of the present Hollenback Cemetery and City Hospital, not far from the mouth of Mill Creek. By the middle of October extensive fields of English grain had been sown in the vicinity of Mill Creek, and then the pioneers secreted their implements and tools and returned to their New England homes. Late in the following Spring (1763) they came back, bringing their families, horses, oxen, cows and household utensils, prepared to establish themselves permanently in the valley which had been so long the object of their keen desires. The Spring and Summer seasons were favorable; the crops of Winter grain proved abundant, and were successfully garnered, and the brave and hardy pioneers—who had increased in number to near one hundred and fifty—were looking forward with hope to scenes of prosperity and happiness, although they knew that their little settlement was far removed from the marts of trade, and beyond the confines of civilization.

During the absence of the New Englanders from the valley in the Spring of 1763 several interesting and important changes in local conditions had taken place. Teedyuscung the King was dead. While lying in a drunken stupor in his house in the village of Wyoming, on April 19th, at dead of night, flames burst suddenly from the house, and soon it and all its contents—including the helpless King—were consumed. Less than a month later the conspiracy fomented by Pontiac, the Ottawa chieftain, was unmasked at Detroit (in what is now Michigan), and then was begun the war—far-reaching in its effects—between the Indians and the whites, which continued till the Summer of 1764. About six weeks after the beginning of this war all the Indians in Wyoming Valley departed therefrom; and with this exodus the red men's occupancy of the valley came to an end.

Without any warning, at noonday on October 15, 1763, a large party of hostile Delawares, led by a son of the late King Teedyuscung, came into the valley from the eastern borders of Pennsylvania (where they had been committing numerous depredations and murders) and fell upon the Mill Creek settlement while the men were scattered and engaged in the labors of the field. Unprepared for resistance about twenty men and women were slain, scalped, and otherwise mutilated, and a number of others were taken away captive. The rest of the people, taking with them such of their belongings as they could snatch in their excitement and haste, fled in fear and consternation to the mountains. As they turned back during their ascent to steal an occasional glance at the beautiful valley below, they beheld the savages driving their cattle away and plundering their houses of the goods that had been left. "At nightfall the torch was applied, and the darkness that hung over the vale was illuminated by the lurid flames of their own dwellings—the abodes of happiness and peace in the morning."

Thomas and Richard Penn, the then Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, not only viewed with great disfavor this abortive attempt of The Susquehanna Company to establish a settlement in Wyoming, but, vigorously, and without delay, set up their own title in, and right of jurisdiction over, the territory in question. In order to strengthen their claim they sought during several years—more particularly after 1763—to effect a direct purchase of the disputed territory from the Six Nations. The purpose so persistently pursued was not finally accomplished, however, until November 5, 1768, when, at a grand Indian council held at Fort Stanwix, New York, the Proprietaries obtained from certain chiefs of the Six Nations a deed for all that part of the Province of Pennsylvania which had not theretofore been purchased by the Proprietaries from the Indians, and which of course included the lands in the Wyoming region claimed by The Susquehanna Company to have been previously conveyed to them. In the meantime the Company's contest with the Pennsylvania Proprietaries had grown to such proportions that the case had been laid before King George III, who inhibited all entries by any party on these lands until proper inquiry into the matter should be made by the Home Government.

After the disastrous events at Mill Creek in October, 1763, five years intervened before The Susquehanna Company prepared to resume their operations in Wyoming Valley. Their agents and representatives had been fully cognizant during this period of the efforts being made by the Penns to secure a deed from the Six Nations, and some of the friends of the company were at Fort Stanwix in November, 1768, when the deed in question was executed. Seven weeks later the Company met at Hartford, Connecticut, and in view of the move made by the Penns, and for other reasons, resolved to "proceed and settle" their Wyoming possessions. It was further resolved that "forty persons —upwards of the age of twenty-one years, proprietors in said Purchase and approved by the committee to be nominated—proceed to enter upon and take possession of said land, for and in behalf of said Company, by the first day of February, 1769; and that two hundred more of said Company, of the age aforesaid, proceed and join said forty as early in the Spring as may be."



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THE OLD AQUEDUCT AT THE MOUTH OF MILL CREEK;
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN ABOUT 1875.

VIEW SOUTH, FROM THE ROOF OF HOTEL STERLING, APRIL, 1906.

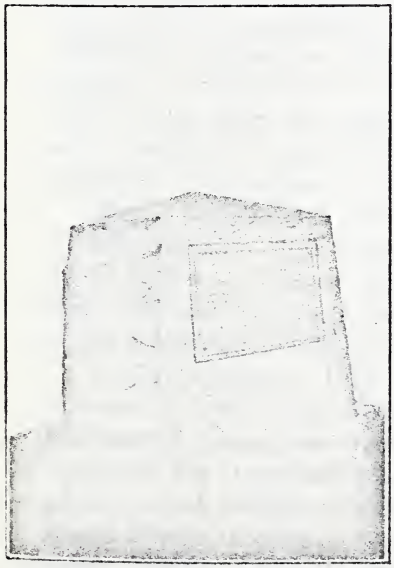
For the encouragement of the "First Forty" settlers, as also of the two hundred who should join them in the Spring, the Company voted to lay out five "gratuity" towns, or townships, of land within the Purchase. Each town was to be five miles square, and three of these towns were to be located on one side of the river and two on the other side—"adjoining and opposite to each other, only the river parting." The "First Forty" were to have their choice of one of these towns, and then the remaining four towns were to belong to the two hundred other settlers—"to be divided out to them by fifties in a town." It was expressly stipulated that these five towns (which subsequently became known as "settling" towns and were respectively named Wilkes-Barré, Hanover, Pittston, Kingston and Plymouth) were to be owned and possessed by the "Forty" and the two hundred other proprietors only upon the following conditions, *viz.:* That they should continue thereon, "holding and improving the same by themselves, heirs or assigns, under said Company, for the space of five years after their entry."

The "First Forty" settlers reached Wyoming Valley February 8, 1769, and much to their surprise found that, at or near the spot (at Mill Creek) where the New England pioneers of 1762-'63 had built their cabins, there had recently been erected a small block-house and several cabins by the Pennsylvanians (who were dubbed by the Yankees "Pennamites"), a number of whom—including the Sheriff of Northampton County—were in possession of the same. They also found that some weeks earlier the Pennsylvanians had surveyed two bodies of land, one on the east side of the river (comprehending the present city and township of Wilkes-Barré and part of the township of Plains) which they called the "Manor of Stoke," and one on the west side of the river which they called the "Manor of Sunbury." The Pennsylvania authorities, immediately upon the arrival of the "Forty," began to harass them, and upon two occasions during the ensuing two months arrested several of their number, marched them off some sixty-five miles to Easton, Pennsylvania, and locked them up in the Northampton County jail.

Thus, very briefly, we have stated the grounds and given an account of the inception of what is known in Pennsylvania history as the "First Pennamite-Yankee War"—which, combined with the "Second Pennamite-Yankee War" (referred to hereinafter), represented "a controversy over the political jurisdiction and right of soil in a tract of country containing more than five millions of acres of land. It involved the lives of hundreds, was the ruin of thousands, and cost Pennsylvania millions of dollars. It wore out one entire generation. This controversy was an event in the history of Wyoming which cast its baneful influences over every activity that contributed to the progress and growth of the settlement, and it affected the inhabitants in all their material relations. Any successes achieved by them were wrought out despite of it, and their failures and misfortunes were of a character more disheartening and lasting by reason of this ever-present menace." Our Pilgrim fathers could recount no such afflictions as our Wyoming fathers were compelled to endure!

At a meeting held at Hartford, Connecticut, April 12, 1769, The Susquehanna Company voted that the affairs of the settlers at Wyoming should "be under the direction and order of a Committee of Settlers," and that this Committee should "form the whole number present on the land into one body, joined together in one common interest" and settled compactly together (without regard to any particular township), so that they might properly and securely guard and fortify their settlement. The Committee was directed also "to divide and part out the men into parties proper for the various businesses—husbandry, tillage, fortifying, scouting, hunting and other parts necessary and convenient for the whole; and to unite in peace and good order." As the head of this governing, or managing, committee, and as leader and commander of the settlers in their march to Wyoming, the Company appointed Maj. John Durkee, with the title of "President of the First Settlers." He was a resident of Norwich, New London County, Connecticut; was at that time a Justice of the Peace by appointment of the General Assembly, and, although only a few months past forty years of age, had had considerable experience as an officer in the French and Indian War and as a man of affairs in time of peace.

In the latter part of April, 1769, about 110 men rendezvoused at Norwich, Connecticut, whence they set out for Wyoming on horseback, in command of Major Durkee. Entering Pennsylvania at a point in what is now Pike County they were there met by the "First Forty" settlers, who, hoping to avoid further molestation from the Pennsylvanians, had retired thither. The combined band of Yankees reached the head of Wyoming Valley on May 12th, and without delay proceeded down the valley, past the huts of the Pennamites, to a point on the east bank of the Susquehanna near the intersection of the present West River Street and Ross Street in Wilkes-Barré, where they encamped. Almost immediately after their arrival there they began the erection of twenty odd substantial and commodious one-story log cabins, which they built closely together in the form of a parallelogram. All the cabins were completed and occupied by the 20th of May, and then, by the 1st of June, the cabins were surrounded with a stout wooden stockade. Upon the completion of this the Yankees named their fortified group of cabins "Fort Durkee," in honor of their leader, Maj. John Durkee.



MONUMENT MARKING THE SITE OF FORT DURKEE.*

As soon as the settlers had made their log cabins habitable they proceeded to clear and break up for cultivation land on the flats southwest of their settlement, and by the first of June

* In June, 1899, Wyoming Valley Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, of Wilkes-Barré, erected on the River Common—a few feet from the north side of South Street, at the corner of West River Street—a monument (depicted above) marking the site of Fort Durkee.

they had 200 acres planted with Indian corn, turnips and pumpkins. In the meantime, while the work of building and planting was going on, the number of settlers was gradually increased from time to time by arrivals from New England and elsewhere, so that by the 2d of June there were 195 men on the ground under the auspices of The Susquehanna Company. The community was governed and managed in very much the same manner as a military camp in an enemy's country would be regulated and commanded. Scouts were sent out and sentries were posted each day and night; no stranger was allowed to come into the settlement to tarry unless he bore proper credentials from the authorized representatives in New England of The Susquehanna Company—except he should receive permission from the Committee of Settlers on the ground; no member of the community was permitted to leave the settlement at any time without a furlough or written pass granted by President Durkee. The latter's office was an important one, for his duties were executive, judicial and military in their character.

About the middle of September, 1769, arrangements were made by the Committee of Settlers at Fort Durkee with respect to the locating and laying out of the five "gratuity," or "settling," towns, or townships, provided for by The Susquehanna Company, as previously mentioned. The first township to be surveyed comprehended the settlement of the Yankees at Fort Durkee and that of the Pennamites at Mill Creek, and it formally and immediately received the name which, some weeks previously, had been bestowed by Major Durkee upon the Yankee settlement—"WILKES-BARRÉ". This township, as then surveyed, contained an area of about twenty-three square miles, and included the territory of the present city and township of Wilkes-Barré and a portion of what is now the township of Plains. Further, the island at the bend of the river—for some years now called Fish's Island—was annexed to and considered a part of this township, and for many years thereafter was known as "Wilkes-Barré Island."

Major Durkee was the compounder and originator of the unique name "Wilkes-Barré." It is compounded of the surnames of the Right Honorables John Wilkes and Isaac Barré, two prominent and distinguished citizens of Great Britain who were steadfast friends, and zealous advocates of the rights, of the American Colonies during the troublous times of 1765-'83.

In the Spring of 1769, when the Wyoming colonists left New England, it was well known that John Wilkes (who had been a member of the British Parliament, and whose name was indissolubly connected with Liberty in the minds of the American colonists and their friends) was suffering what his admirers and followers believed to be an unjust imprisonment in the King's Bench Prison, London. At the same time Isaac Barré (who, in the campaign under General Amherst against the French in Canada in 1760, had been a fellow-officer of Maj. John Durkee and was personally known to him) stood in the British House of Commons as the foe of America's oppressors, and was almost unrivaled as a brilliant speaker, and hardly surpassed by any of the Opposition party—even by Edmund Burke himself—in violent denun-

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THE RT. HON. JOHN WILKES.

ciations of the Government. Among the admirers of Wilkes and Barré in Connecticut, during the period to which we refer, it is doubtful if there was one who surpassed in earnestness and devotedness the tried and steadfast patriot John Durkee, who for several years then had been one of the leaders of the wide-extended and influential American patriotic society known as the "Sons of Liberty."* Other members of the Durkee family in Connecticut were also lovers of Liberty and Free Speech—and so it was that when in October, 1767, a son was born to Maj. John Durkee he gave him the name *"Barré"*; and when in July, 1768, a son was born to Andrew Durkee, cousin of John, he received the name *"Wilkes"*. Andrew Durkee was in Wyoming for a time in 1769.

Considering the foregoing circumstances in connection with the known condition of public affairs which existed in America in 1769, it is easy to understand why Major Durkee was led to coin the name "Wilkes-Barré",† and apply it to the infant frontier township where he was chief in authority as "President of the First Settlers". He, however, as well as many others in his day and later, always wrote the name "Wilkesbarre".

Early in November, 1769, by order of the Pennsylvania Proprietary Government, a force of about 250 Pennamites, under the direction and command of John Jennings (the Sheriff of Northampton County), Capt. Amos Ogden and Charles Stewart (afterwards Commissary General of the Continental Army), was assembled in the valley, well armed, and provided with a 4-pounder cannon. By a *ruse de guerre* Major Durkee and several other Yankee settlers were captured, and Durkee was immediately sent in irons, under an armed escort, to Philadelphia, where he was closely imprisoned in the City Jail. The remaining settlers fled for safety to Fort Durkee, which was soon invested by the Pennamites, who summoned the Yankees to either surrender or submit to the "immediate destruction" of the fort.

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THE RT. HON. ISAAC BARRÉ.

* The name borne by this society had been derived from a speech made by Isaac Barré in the House of Commons in 1765, when, during the debate on the Stamp Bill, he characterized the American colonists as "Sons of Liberty." One of the popular mottoes of the "Sons" was "Wilkes and Liberty!"

† It may be well to state, for the information of the reader not "to the manner born," that the name of our town—a compound word of three syllables—is pronounced neither *Wilks-bär*, *Wilkes-bär*, *Wilks-bāre-ry* nor *Wilks-bāre-ĕh*, as so often heard, but *Wilks-bā-rā*—with a slight accent on the first syllable; "i" in the first syllable being sounded as "i" in "pin," "a" in the second syllable as "a" in "mat", and the final "é" as "a" in "mate." The parents of Colonel Barré were of French birth and lineage, and their surname was always written as herein printed. The French "e" with the "close" accent has the sound noted above.

Deprived of their leader, menaced by a superior force, and "persuaded by the dreadful 4-pounder," the Yankees agreed to surrender, and on November 14th the capitulation took place—"articles, or conditions, of agreement" being drawn up, and signed by Jennings, Ogden and Stewart "in behalf of the Honorable Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, Esquires, Proprietaries of the Province of Pennsylvania, on the one part, and John Smith and Stephen Gardner, Committeemen chosen and appointed by The Susquehanna Company, in behalf of themselves and the said Company, of the other part." Under the terms of this agreement, or treaty, all the Connecticut settlers were to depart from the valley within three days, except fourteen men who were to remain, occupy six of the houses, and look after the crops, the live-stock, etc., belonging to the New Englanders. All the other houses, the fort and the lands were to be "occupied, possessed and enjoyed" by the Pennamites. This was to be the *status in quo* "until His Majesty's decree or royal order be issued and publicly made known in America in regard to the title of the lands at Wyoming."

Soon after this "treaty" the Pennamite forces—with the exception of a small garrison at the Mill Creek block-house—were disbanded; but not until they had first engaged in an indiscriminate scheme of plunder, and had driven off to market on the Delaware River hundreds of swine, sheep, cattle and horses belonging to the Yankees. Thus closed 1769, the first year of the Pennamite and Yankee contest for the possession of Wyoming.

Major Durkee, having been released from confinement in Philadelphia, returned to Wyoming Valley in the latter part of March, 1770, at the head of a well-armed body of men, and soon thereafter the Pennamites were driven from the valley and the Yankees were once more masters of the situation. New improvements were made, crops were planted, and preparations were begun for locating the proprietor-settlers throughout the five "settling" towns previously mentioned.

Early in June, 1770, the town-plot of Wilkes-Barré was planned by Major Durkee, and under his direction was surveyed and plotted by Samuel Wallis, a skilled surveyor (then of Philadelphia, but later of Northumberland County, Pennsylvania), assisted by Joseph Jacob Wallis, his half-brother, and others. The plot was laid out on the level stretch of land, comprising some two hundred acres, lying just north-east of Fort Durkee. It was in the form of a parallelogram, its longer sides being parallel with the river, and it was bounded on the north-east by what is now known as North Street; on the south-east by the present Pennsylvania Avenue; on the south-west by South Street, and on the north-west by River Street. The parallelogram was intersected by three cross streets, now known as Northampton, Market and Union, while lengthways it was intersected by Main Street. No names were given to any of these streets until some years later. River Street was continued for some distance below the town-plot, while Main Street ran south to the township of Hanover and north to Pittston. It was a number of years later before Franklin and Washington Streets were laid out, and still later before Jackson and Fell (now State) Streets were opened to the public.

In the center of the town-plot was laid out a diamond-shaped space containing some four acres of ground, which remained a part of the common, or public, undivided lands of the township. A few years later this open space received the name of "Center Square", but for some time now it has been known as "Public Square". The land lying between River Street and the river—upwards of thirty-five acres in extent, and now known as the "River Common"—also remained a part of the public, undivided lands of the township, and was not included in the town-plot. The latter was divided into forty-eight lots; but as the regulations of The Susquehanna Company required that

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RIVER COMMON—SOUTH.

(In the middle ground at the left stood Fort Wyoming. See page 26.)

there should be fifty "house-lots" apportioned among the fifty proprietors of the township, it was found necessary to lay two lots outside the town-plot proper. One of these was at the south-east corner of River and South Streets, while the other was at the south-east corner of Main and South Streets.

An apportionment of the lots in the town-plot was made to the proprietors of the township of Wilkes-Barré through the medium of a lottery June 29, 1770. Just twelve weeks later Nathan Ogden (a brother of Capt. Amos Ogden

previously mentioned), at the head of about 140 armed Pennamites, made a foray into the valley and captured a number of the New England party—among whom were Maj. John Durkee, Maj. Simeon Draper and Capt. Zebulon Butler—who were immediately marched in irons to Easton. Messrs. Durkee, Draper and Butler were sent thence under guard to the jail at Philadelphia some two or three weeks later. Fort Durkee at Wilkes-Barré, having been taken possession of by the Pennamites, was garrisoned by a detail under the command of Col. Asher Clayton.

About the middle of the following December Major Draper returned to Wyoming Valley from his imprisonment at Philadelphia, and in January or February, 1771, Captain Butler, having been released, repaired to his home in Connecticut. Major Durkee, however, was kept a prisoner in the Philadelphia City Jail until August, 1772—a period of twenty-three months, during which he underwent many hardships and was occasioned much distress of body and mind. Upon his release from custody he repaired to Norwich, where his wife and children were still residing. In 1773 and '74 he made brief visits to Wyoming and performed certain duties as a member of the "Committee of Settlers". When the Revolutionary War broke out he was one of the first of the old French and Indian War officers in Connecticut who joined the patriot army. In April, 1775—shortly after the fight at Lexington—John Durkee was commissioned Major of the 3d Connecticut Regiment (Israel Putnam being Colonel and Benedict Arnold Lieutenant Colonel), and June 17, 1775, the regiment participated in the battle of Bunker Hill. In July, 1775, Major Durkee was promoted Lieutenant Colonel of the 3d Regiment (then known as the "20th Regiment, Continental Foot"), and in August, 1776, he was promoted Colonel of the regiment. In October, 1776, he was appointed and commissioned Colonel of the 4th Regiment, Connecticut Line, and in January, 1781, was transferred to the colonelcy of the 1st Regiment, Connecticut Line. He remained in command of this regiment until May 29, 1782, when he died "from exhaustion induced by the service."

Colonel Durkee saw much active and severe service and participated in many important battles during the seven years that he was an officer in the Revolutionary Army. But his services as the chief man among the Wyoming settlers of 1769-'70, his brilliant record as a soldier in the War for Independence, and, above all, the fact that he was *the founder and namer of Wilkes-Barré,* have been either overlooked or entirely disregarded by our local historians and monument erecters. In all the years since his death not a single effort to perpetuate the memory of Colonel Durkee has been made by the citizens of the town which he laid out and named, and for the founding of which he suffered unjust imprisonment. Is it possible that "blind forgetfulness and dark oblivion" have buried the name and fame of John Durkee beyond resurrection!

One of the inscriptions on the Beacon Hill monument in Boston, Massachusetts, reads as follows: "Americans, while from this eminence scenes of luxuriant fertility, of flourishing commerce, and the abodes of social happiness meet your view, forget not those who by their exertions have secured to you

these blessings!" With two or three verbal changes, to meet local conditions, what an appropriate inscription this would be for a splendid monument to be erected to the memory of Col. John Durkee by the wealthy citizens of Wilkes-Barré (descendants, many of them, of the early settlers of Wyoming) upon the River Common, or in the center of Public Square when the present dilapidated and discreditable Court House shall have been razed to the ground, together with its faithful, cast-iron guardian, the inartistic deer! Read again that expressive and significant Beacon Hill inscription—with the needed changes made: *Wilkes-Barréans, while from this spot scenes of luxuriant fertility, of flourishing industries, and the abodes of social happiness meet your view, forget not those who by their exertions secured to you these blessings!* To these words might be added, in letters of gold:

"Sires of old, your fame is writ in gold!
Your heritage we treasure, and your mandates heed.
While Time shall last, no stain shall e'er be cast
To dim the light that shines above each patriot deed."

Although the Pennamites were in possession of Fort Durkee and were the sole occupants of Wyoming Valley, and John Durkee, Zebulon Butler, and other New Englanders were being restrained of their liberty by the Pennsylvania authorities, The Susquehanna Company was not yet defeated. On the 18th of December, 1770, at Fort Durkee,

"When all the doors were fastened,
And all the windows shut,
There was yet one little window,
And that one was forgot."

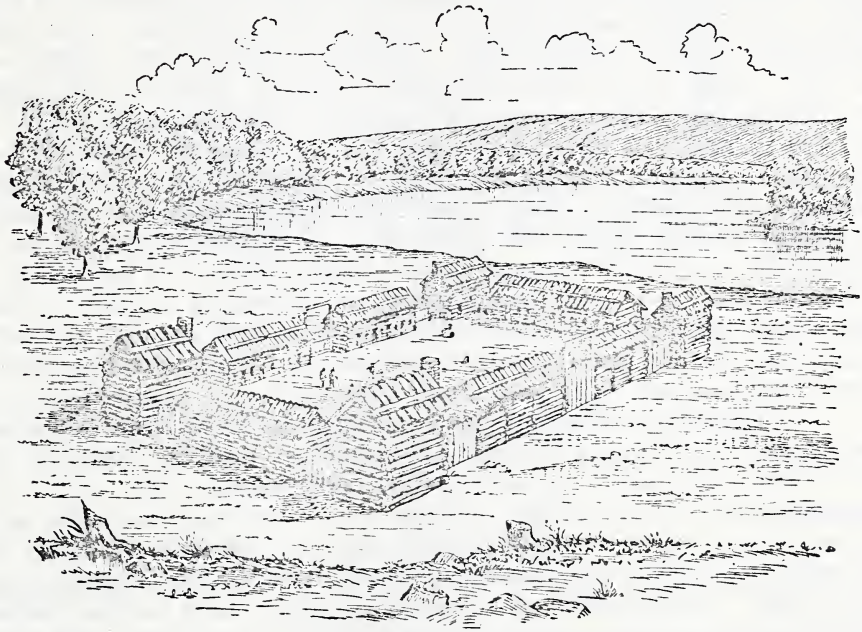
Without the slightest warning the sleeping garrison—too confidently secure, even, to keep a sentinel on duty—was aroused about three o'clock in the morning by a "Huzza for King George!" and Capt. Lazarus Stewart,* with twenty-eight men, took possession of the fort "in behalf of the Colony of Connecticut." Six of the Pennamite garrison, leaping nearly naked from the parapet of the fort, escaped to the mountains, while the others were as unceremoniously expelled—after their firearms had been taken from them—as had been the previous Yankee occupants.

One month later, however, the unexpected happened at Wilkes-Barré! In the minds of the Pennsylvania authorities a strong sensation had been created by the bold exploits of Captain Stewart, and a warrant for his arrest was issued by one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the Province. The Sheriff of Northampton County was directed to proceed with the *posse comitatus* from Easton to Wyoming to execute the writ. Capt. Amos Ogden was once more

* Capt. Lazarus Stewart was a native of Hanover Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, of Scots-Irish descent. He raised and commanded in 1755 a company of Provincial volunteers which took part in the disastrous expedition of General Braddock against the French and Indians. During the French and Indian War which ended in 1762 Captain Stewart commanded a company of "Rangers," detailed to guard the English settlements along the Juniata River in Pennsylvania. During Pontiac's War (mentioned on page 15) he commanded a company of the "Paxtang Rangers," or "Paxtang Boys," a mounted military battalion of several companies composed of men of the Paxtang region in Lancaster County under the colonelcy of the Rev. John Elder. In February, 1770, Captain Stewart and some forty of his former "Rangers" came to Wyoming Valley, in pursuance of a compact made with representatives of The Susquehanna Company, to aid the New Englanders in maintaining possession of their settlements on the Susquehanna. Captain Stewart settled in Hanover Township, a short distance below Wilkes-Barré. He took part in the battle of Wyoming, July 3, 1778, and fell early in the conflict.

called to the front and placed at the head of the military contingent, and acted as the undisputed leader of the expedition. This *"posse,"* consisting fully of one hundred well-armed and equipped men, arrived in Wyoming Valley January 18, 1771, and immediately began the erection of a strong wooden fort (subsequently called Fort Wyoming) on the river bank, about eight or ten rods west by south of the junction of the present River and Northampton Streets (see page 23), and about 125 rods distant from Fort Durkee—for the reduction of which it was built. Capt. Lazarus Stewart still commanded at Fort Durkee.

"It was Greek against Greek now. Ogden demanded the surrender of the fort [Durkee]. Stewart replied that he had taken possession in the name and



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FORT WYOMING, WILKES-BARRÉ, 1771-'74.

behalf of the Colony of Connecticut, in whose jurisdiction they were, and by that authority he would defend it." During this parley Nathan Ogden (a member of the Pennamite force, and brother of Captain Ogden) was killed by a shot fired from Fort Durkee. Perceiving that the Pennamites far outnumbered his men, Captain Stewart, accompanied by thirty or forty of his most trusty adherents, quietly retired from Fort Durkee and from the valley during the ensuing night. About ten or twelve families, who were believed to be the least obnoxious to the Pennamites, were left in possession of the fort, but the next day the men—ten or twelve in number—were all taken prisoners and sent to the Easton jail, while the other members of these families were driven out of the valley. This was the fifth expulsion of the Yankees from Wyoming by the Pennamites. "The killing of Nathan Ogden was regarded by the authori-

ties of Pennsylvania as the greatest outrage that had thus far marked this most singular and obstinate contest, and a reward of £300 was offered for the apprehension of Lazarus Stewart—but he was not taken."

About the 1st of March, 1771, the men who had been garrisoning the two forts at Wilkes-Barré were joined by a number of Pennsylvanians and Jerseymen with their families, as well as by Capt. Amos Ogden and Charles Stewart, Esq., previously mentioned. Fort Wyoming was thereupon enlarged and strengthened, and all the Pennamite settlers and others on the ground dwelt therein—Fort Durkee being abandoned and dismantled and, it is quite probable, demolished in part. During the next four months, and more peace and quiet reigned in Wyoming, and the Pennamites here, who numbered about eighty effective men, were nearly all engaged in agricultural operations at various points within hail of Fort Wyoming. The members of The Susquehanna Company were not idle, however, during this time, for in March, April and June, 1771, largely-attended meetings of the Company's shareholders were held at Windham, Connecticut, and plans were made for retaking possession of their settlement at Wyoming. A report having been made at the first meeting that the Company's settlers had been "again unjustly and inhumanly drove off from their settlement at Wyoming, and robbed of their effects, by a gang of lawless and wicked men," it was resolved that it was "desirable to defend our [their] possessions on Susquehanna River with life and spirit," and that the claim to those lands should be "prosecuted in every constitutional way that can be devised." A committee was appointed "to take the names of such as shall engage to go forward"; and it was voted that each man "at his setting off be paid out of the treasury of the Company five dollars."

In pursuance of these resolutions upwards of seventy men (nearly every one of whom was a shareholder in the Company, and had been at Wyoming at some time previously) were enlisted to go forward to the much-coveted valley under the command of Capt. Zebulon Butler.* Each man armed and equipped himself, and towards the end of June Captain Butler and about fifty of his men set out from eastern Connecticut for Wilkes-Barré. Before reaching here they were joined by Capt. Lazarus Stewart and some twelve or fifteen of his followers, and on the 9th of July this combined band of spirited men appeared with startling suddenness in Wyoming Valley and deployed before the wooden walls of Fort Wyoming to "prosecute the claim" of The Susquehanna Company. By July 21st Captain Butler's force had been increased to ninety-eight effective men by the arrival of re-enforcements. Several redoubts were thereupon erected, and the investment of Fort Wyoming was completed by the besieging party—all communication with the surrounding country, either by land or water, being entirely cut off. After a siege of twenty-six days,

* Zebulon Butler was a native of Ipswich, Essex County, Massachusetts, where he was born in 1731; but at an early age he removed with his parents to Lyme, New London County, Connecticut. His military service began in the Summer of 1755, when he became Ensign of a company in the Connecticut regiment commanded by Col. David Wooster. He was in active service as an officer in each of the campaigns in the years 1755-'61 during the French and Indian War, and in 1762, as Captain (having been promoted to that rank in 1759), he took part in the fatal expedition against Havana. He came to Wyoming first in June, 1769, and from that time until within four or five years of his death (a period of twenty-one years) "the life of Zebulon Butler is the history of Wyoming." From September, 1776, till June, 1783, he was in active service as an officer of the Continental Army—first as Lieutenant Colonel and then as Colonel. From 1787 till 1792 he was "Lieutenant of the County" in and for the new county of Luzerne. He died at his home in the township of Wilkes-Barré, July 28, 1795.

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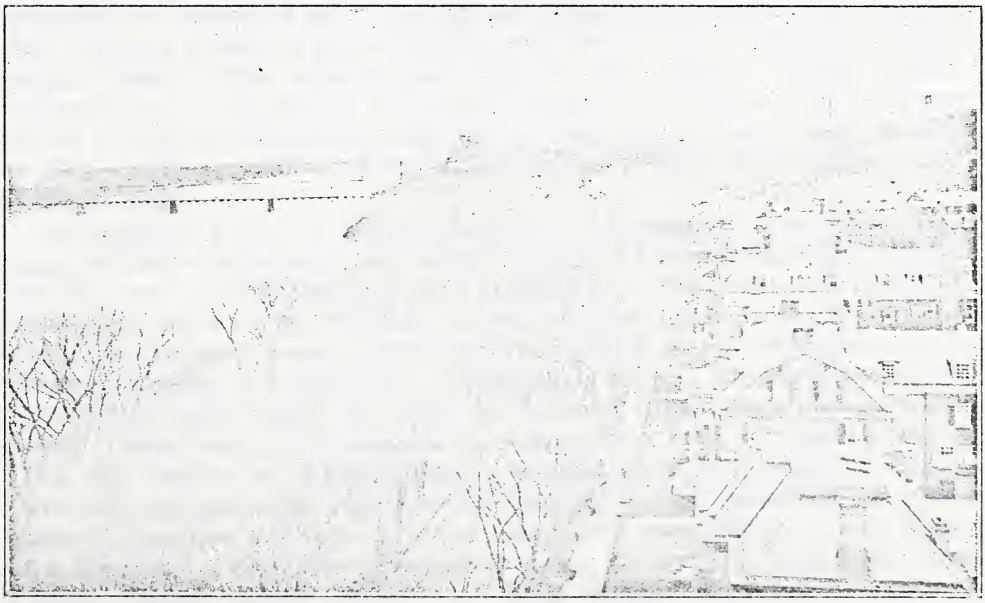
THE OLD CANAL BASIN,
AS SEEN FROM THE "REDOUBT", ABOUT 1875.



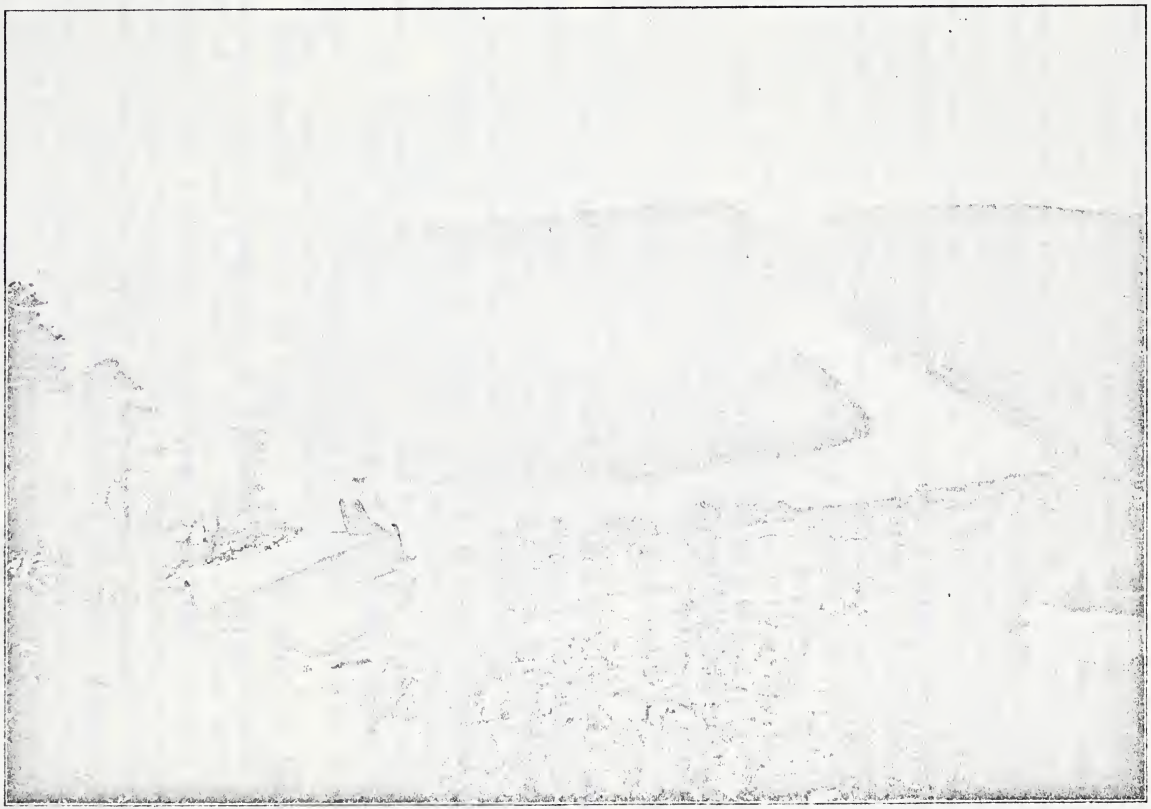
VIEW OF RIVER COMMON, NORTH FROM THE ROOF OF HOTEL STERLING, APRIL, 1906.

during which the forces of the combatants were largely increased in numbers, the Pennamites were compelled to evacuate their fort and depart from the valley, leaving the Yankees in full and quiet possession.

At last the Wyoming settlement under the auspices of The Susquehanna Company was beginning to flourish; new settlers—men, women and children—from Connecticut and elsewhere were coming to the valley nearly every week; town-meetings were being frequently held at Fort Wyoming by the qualified "proprietors" of the whole settlement, at which affairs of common interest and public good were discussed and acted upon. In every respect the people showed that they were competent to defend themselves, and their footing seemed securely established. In the early part of the Winter of 1771-'72 Fort Wyoming and the Mill-Creek block-house were enlarged and strengthened, and in the Spring of 1772 the settlers, with very few exceptions, were still living in those strongholds—being about equally divided between the two. With the coming of Spring many of the settlers departed for their old homes in New England and elsewhere, and soon returned with their wives and children, their live stock and their personal and household effects. The surveys of the five "settling" townships were perfected, and on or about April 30, 1772, a re-distribution of the lots in the town-plot of Wilkes-Barré was made to the fifty proprietors of the township; and to them, then and later, an original distribution was made, by means of a lottery, of the 150 lots in the three other divisions of the township.

At the time of the allotment of the Wilkes-Barré lands what was called the town-plot was still "a sterile plain, covered with pitch pine and scrub oak." However, within a very short time the first house within the bounds of the town-plot was erected, a well was dug, and other improvements were made by Capt. Stephen Fuller on his lot at the south-west corner of Main and Northampton Streets. The carpentry was done by John Abbott, Captain Fuller's brother-in-law. The remains of the old fireplace of this house were to be seen as late as 1812—the building itself having been burned down either in 1778 or 1784—while the well on the premises was in evidence, and perhaps in use, as late as 1830.

In January, 1774, the General Assembly of Connecticut erected the Wyoming territory—including of course the village and township of Wilkes-Barré—into the town of Westmoreland, and annexed it to the county of Litchfield, Connecticut, with all the corporate powers of other towns in the Colony—including the right of representation by two deputies, or representatives, in the General Assembly of Connecticut. (The county-town of Litchfield was distant from Wilkes-Barré nearly 200 miles by the most direct route through north-eastern Pennsylvania and across south-eastern New York.) March 1 and 2, 1774, the freemen of Westmoreland assembled in town-meeting at Wilkes-Barré, and the new town was formally organized by the transaction of certain matters of business and the election of ninety-nine town officers—Clerk, Treasurer, Selectmen, Constables, Collectors of Rates, Surveyors of Highways, Fence Viewers, Listers, Grand Jurors, etc. Some months later certain courts of justice were established, representatives from Westmoreland to the General



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LOOKING DOWN THE SUSQUEHANNA FROM TILLBURY'S KNOB, NEAR NANTICOKE FALLS, SOME EIGHT MILES SOUTH-WEST OF WILKES-BARRÉ.

Assembly were elected, and in May, 1775, the organization of the 24th Regiment, Connecticut Militia (to be constituted of Westmoreland men), having been authorized by the General Assembly, its field officers were "established" and duly commissioned—Zebulon Butler being Colonel, Nathan Denison Lieutenant Colonel and William Judd Major.

In December, 1775, the long period of peace and quiet which Wyoming had been enjoying was broken by an incursion of a body of some 600 or 700 well-armed and equipped men from Sunbury and its neighborhood, in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, under the command of Dr. William Plunket, a Justice of the Peace, and a Colonel in the Pennsylvania militia. This expedition had been organized in pursuance of orders issued by John Penn, Governor of Pennsylvania, and the armed force was denominated "the *posse comitatus* of Northumberland." Ostensibly it was the body-guard of Sheriff Cook of Northumberland County, whose business at Wyoming, it was claimed, was to arrest on civil writs two or three of the leading Yankees here. In reality, however, the object of this expedition was to drive The Susquehanna Company's settlers out of their peaceful valley. The organization of the 24th Regiment having been completed in October, 1775, Colonel Butler called out six of the nine companies composing it, and with this force—aggregating about 400 men— he successfully repelled the invaders, fighting a battle at "Rampart Rocks" near Nanticoke Falls on Christmas-day. Several lives were lost on both sides, and thus was ended the "First Pennamite-Yankee War."

Notwithstanding their own peculiar situation, and the fact that they felt themselves to be under the necessity of constantly watching and guarding against their near-by foes, the Pennamites, the people of Wyoming were prompt to espouse the cause of their country upon the breaking out of the War for Independence. As early as August 8, 1775, in town-meeting assembled, they voted: *"We will unanimously join our brethren in America in the common cause of defending our liberty."* At the first news of the conflicts at Lexington and Concord in April, 1775, some of the young men of Wyoming had hastened to join the Continental forces near Boston, and some of them arrived in time to take part in the battle of Bunker Hill.

Four months prior to the signing of the Declaration of American Independence sixty-six inhabitants of Westmoreland, "being sensible of the blessings of liberty, and desirous of taking a share in defense thereof," organized themselves into a military company and offered their services to the Continental Congress "to engage our [their] enemies, invaders, or intruders." Congress did not, however, accept the offer of these "associators": but five months later (in August, 1776), Independence having been declared, Congress resolved that two military companies "on the Continental establishment" should be raised in the town of Westmoreland, and forthwith appointed and commissioned the necessary officers for the same. These companies were duly raised, and were mustered into the Continental service at Wilkes-Barré September 17, 1776. They were credited to Connecticut, and were known as the "Wyoming Independent Companies" and as the "Independent Companies of Westmoreland". Numbering in the aggregate 180 officers and men they marched

early in January, 1777, from Wilkes-Barré to Morristown, New Jersey, where they joined the forces of General Washington. During their whole term of service they were on active duty, and were brave and efficient soldiers.

At a town-meeting held at Wilkes-Barré August 24, 1776—less than two months after the Declaration of Independence—it was voted by the inhabitants of Westmoreland "that it now becomes necessary for the inhabitants of this town to erect suitable forts, as a defense against our common enemy." Colonel Butler, Lieutenant Colonel Denison and Major Judd were then appointed "a committee to fix on proper sites for the forts, lay them out, and give directions how they should be built." Shortly afterwards this committee recommended to the people that they "proceed forthwith in building said forts without either fee or reward from ye town." This recommendation was adopted by the citizens, and within a short time wooden forts, or stockades, were erected in the districts of Plymouth, Exeter, Pittston and Wilkes-Barré. In the district of Kingston Forty Fort, which had been erected about three miles north of the

FORTY FORT, 1772-1778.
Photo-reproduction of the picture in Pearce's "Annals of Luzerne County".

village of Wilkes-Barré by the inhabitants of Kingston in 1772 (*not* in either 1769 or 1770, each of which has been mentioned often heretofore as the year of its erection), was enlarged and strengthened. Fort Wilkes-Barré was built in the Autumn of 1776 on the southern half of the Public Square, being located about where now stands the monument set up in 1881 by the Pennsylvania Geological Survey to indicate the latitude and longitude of Wilkes-Barré.

The General Assembly of Connecticut, sitting at New Haven, passed an Act October 10, 1776, declaring that thenceforth that Colony should "forever be and remain a free, sovereign and independent State, by the name of the State of Connecticut"; and later in the same month, by enactment of the same Legislature, the town of Westmoreland was erected into "Westmoreland County

of the State of Connecticut", with a complete civil and military establishment, and with Wilkes-Barré as the county-town.

The Year 1778 brought great distress and fear to the inhabitants of Westmoreland, for it became known that the British military authorities had decided to employ the Six Nation Indians to aid in carrying on a campaign of desolation against the frontier settlements of New York and Pennsylvania. The people of Westmoreland, or Wyoming, were known to be, in a measure, defenseless; and, although they had not been annoyed by Indians for several years, they felt that now they would be among the first to be attacked. Theirs was in truth a frontier settlement, located on the very borders of the Six Nations. Beyond the reach of succor in case of sudden attack, deprived of many of its natural protectors, and without sufficient arms and ammunition, the situation of Wyoming was indeed desperate. Not only were the two "Wyoming Independent Companies" with Washington's army, but nearly two score more Wyoming men had enlisted in other military organizations and were in active service far from their homes. It was very evident to the inhabitants that they would have to rely on themselves for any defense necessary to be made against an invading enemy.

Early in the Spring of 1778, in pursuance of orders from Sir Guy Carleton, Captain General and Governor of Canada, and Commander-in-chief of His Majesty's forces in Canada and on its frontiers, preparations were begun at Fort Niagara, on the southern shore of Lake Ontario, for an expedition having as its main object the extermination of the Wyoming settlements. Maj. John Butler, commanding a battalion of Provincial troops known as "Butler's Rangers", with headquarters at Fort Niagara, was appointed to the command of this expedition; and largely through his influence *Sayenqueraghta*, a leading and noted chief of the Seneca nation, was induced to join the expedition with several hundred of his warriors. Major Butler was in supreme command of the combined force, which numbered some 1,100 "Rangers" and Indians. The in-

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VIEW IN 1878 OF A PORTION OF THE BATTLEFIELD OF WYOMING; SHOWING IN THE DISTANCE THE OLD JENKINS HOUSE, BUILT ON THE SITE OF FORT WINTERMUTE.

vaders reached the confines of Wyoming Valley June 30, 1778. "They made no attempt at a surprise. They seemed to know that the Wyoming men were the easiest people in the world to find, and that they would not have to chase them. They may even have thought that the more slowly and openly they advanced the richer would be their reward; for the Wyoming soldiers in the Continental army would hurry home to defend their families."

When the alarm was sounded the able-bodied defenders of Wyoming—about 400 men and boys—rendezvoused at Forty Fort. In the afternoon of July 3d nearly the whole of this small force marched out of the fort under the command of Lieut. Col. Zebulon Butler (who chanced to be in the valley on leave of absence from his regiment in the Continental army), and advanced some three miles north-east, where the enemy was encountered and the battle of Wyoming was fought on Abraham's Plains, within the present limits of the borough of Exeter. The story of this battle and the subsequent massacre—so dreadfully disastrous to the inhabitants of the valley—has been told so often by poets and historians, that any extended reference to it here is unnecessary.* On July 4th the Wyoming patriots surrendered to the victorious invaders, and under the terms of capitulation the various garrisons and forts in the valley were to be demolished. Not only was this destruction accomplished without delay, but in addition the enemy plundered nearly all the inhabitants of Wyoming of their personal belongings, and ruthlessly destroyed their homes and growing crops. "Numerical superiority alone gave success to the invader, and wide-spread havoc, desolation and ruin marked his savage and bloody footsteps through the valley." In the village of Wilkes-Barré the fort and all other buildings, with the exception of three or four, were burned to the ground, and the residents, in common with all who dwelt in the valley, were forced to flee either down the river or over the mountains to places of refuge far distant. In very truth Wyoming was desolated and depopulated!

WYOMING MONUMENT.

But in just one month thereafter Col. Zebulon Butler marched to ruined and deserted Wilkes-Barré from what is now Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, in command of a force of one hundred and odd men, consisting of forty of the Westmoreland militia whom he had gathered together, and Capt. Simon Spalding's Continental company composed of the remnants of the two "Wyoming Independent Companies" previously mentioned. A log house which had escaped the 4th of July conflagra-

* Within the present limits of the borough of Wyoming, not far from where the battle and massacre of July 3, 1778, took place, a monument has been erected "commemorative of these events, and of the actors in them." This monument, which was dedicated July 3, 1846 (its corner-stone having been laid July 3, 1833), "was erected over the bones of the slain by their descendants, and others, who gratefully appreciated the services and sacrifices of their patriot ancestors."

tion, and which stood on Main Street near Northampton, was taken possession of and fortified by a stockade of logs set up around it. This served as quarters for the men while they were engaged in scouting, in harvesting the slender crops and gathering together the few strayed cattle which had not been destroyed or carried off by the enemy, and in erecting a new Fort Wyoming on the River Common near Northampton Street, on the site of the former Fort Wyoming (see page 26) which had been demolished by the proprietors of Wilkes-Barré in the latter part of 1774. This second fort was destroyed by the inhabitants of Wyoming in November, 1784, and its site is now marked by a stone monument, bearing a suitably-inscribed bronze tablet, erected in June, 1899, by Wyoming Valley Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, of Wilkes-Barré.

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Gradually—beginning in August, 1778, as previously mentioned—the exiles from Wyoming returned to their ruined homes and devastated fields, and attempted as best they could to re-establish themselves in the valley they loved so well. But as they were often harassed by Indians—who sneaked down to Wyoming from western New York, and upon several occasions took the lives as well as the property of some of the inhabitants—they were mainly obliged to live in garrisons (particularly in Wilkes-Barré, Kingston and Plymouth) for more than two years after the resettlement of the valley had been begun. During this period there occurred in the neighborhood of Wilkes-Barré many dramatic incidents and tragic catastrophes, the best known of which, and the one that has always excited the most interest in the minds of those familiar with Wyoming history, is the episode of the taking away into Indian captivity of Frances Slocum. She was a child of five years when, in November, 1778, she was seized by a band of hostile Delaware Indians and carried off from the home of her parents in the town-plot of Wilkes-Barré, near the western corner of the present North Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. Before her whereabouts could be ascertained by her surviving relatives fifty-nine years had passed by, and then she was found living near Peru, Indiana, the widow of a Miami Indian chief and the mother of two married daughters.

FRANCES SLOCUM

AT THE AGE OF SIXTY-SIX YEARS. AFTER A PORTRAIT PAINTED FROM LIFE IN 1839.

The work of rebuilding ruined habitations and making other improvements in Wyoming in 1779 and 1780 progressed slowly, for the people had few horses and cattle, fewer tools and implements with which to work and no money to use in buying new supplies. For the protection of the people a small garrison of Continental troops was maintained at Fort Wyoming, Wilkes-Barré, from the Autumn of 1778 until February, 1783—Col. Zebulon Butler being in command for the greater part of this time, during which the fort was officially known as "Wyoming Post" and "Wyoming Garrison." With the close of the War for Independence, and with the disappearance of danger from Indians on the frontier, Connecticut and some other New England States began to send forward to Wyoming large numbers of emigrants, men of character and experience and of some means. Unfortunately for Wyoming, however, its troubles did not all come to an end with the close of the Revolution. During the war both parties to the Pennamite-Yankee controversy had refrained as well from a discussion of their difficulties as from active hostilities; but promptly on the appearance of the Angel of Peace above the horizon after the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, the Yankees in Wyoming began to experience gloom and darkness instead of clearing skies, and disquietude instead of tranquillity.

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The old Hollenback store and residence, South Main Street, below Northampton. Reproduced from a picture made in 1858. This is the oldest structure now standing in Wilkes-Barré, it having been erected in 1782.

The Government of the Pennsylvania Proprietaries having been abolished at the beginning of the Revolution, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania took up the matter of the Wyoming controversy early in 1782, and petitioned Congress to constitute a court to hear the parties and determine the question of jurisdiction. Commissioners were accordingly appointed, who met and organized at Trenton, New Jersey, November 19, 1782. After a session of forty-one days this court, on December 30, 1782, pronounced judgment in favor of Pennsylvania. This judgment, known in Wyoming history as the "Decree of Trenton", was to the effect that Connecticut had no right to the lands in controversy, and that the jurisdiction and pre-emption of all the territory lying within the charter limits of Pennsylvania, and then claimed by Connecticut, belonged of right to Pennsylvania. Thus, for the first time since it was founded, more than thirteen years before, Wilkes-Barré, as a part of the controverted territory, was formally declared by unbiased, competent authority to be actually and legally within the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania.

The people of Wyoming viewed the proceedings and findings of the Trenton court with comparative indifference, assuming that the question at issue before it was one of *jurisdiction* only. But soon they were confronted with the fact that their private rights of soil were being questioned by the Pennsylvania authorities, and later they realized that the General Assembly of the Commonwealth was taking steps to eject the holders of Connecticut titles from the territory which they had labored so hard and so long to hold and to improve. Then "the settlers were left, single-handed, to manage their own case. The State of Connecticut had never, in fact, done anything for the Wyoming settlers. They recognized them, but in such a way that the recognition cost nothing. They levied large taxes upon them, but they returned nothing for their defense. They dropped them, incontinently, after the Decree of Trenton." In fact, this "Decree" disposed of the right of jurisdiction only; the title to the soil—which, to the actual participants in the controversy, was an issue of vastly greater importance—remained practically undecided. Therefore, for almost six years following the "Decree", Wyoming was the scene of a series of struggles, controversies and conflicts between the Yankees and Pennamites, the character and intensity of which it is almost impossible now to realize or describe. "Peace, which waved its cheering olive branch over every other part of the Union, healing the wounds inflicted by ruthless war, soothing the sorrows of innumerable children of affliction, and kindling the lamp of Hope in the dark chamber of despair, came not to the broken-hearted people of Wyoming."

During the latter part of the year 1783 and throughout nearly the whole of 1784 the "Second Pennamite-Yankee War", as it has been called by historians, was waged in Wyoming. Many lives were lost, much valuable property was spitefully destroyed, and the deepest misery and most undying hatred were engendered among the participants in this "war". Soldiers in the pay of Pennsylvania, garrisoned at Fort Wyoming ("Fort Dickinson" it was called by the Pennsylvanians at that particular period, in honor of John Dickinson, the then President of the Supreme Executive Council of the State), aided the civil authorities who had been sent to Wilkes-Barré to dispossess the Yankees and drive them from their homes and possessions. Upon two days in May, 1784, the families of 150 Yankees, aggregating more than 500 persons, were evicted at the point of the bayonet, driven from the valley into the wilderness beyond the mountains, and ordered never to return. In many instances dwelling-houses were set on fire by the Pennamites after the occupants had been dispossessed.

In the early part of July, 1784, the militia who had been garrisoning Fort Dickinson, or Wyoming, having been discharged from the service of the State, more than a hundred evicted Wyoming Yankees, who had obtained a supply of arms and ammunition, quietly and secretly returned to the valley and took possession of and fortified some vacant houses within the present limits of the borough of Forty Fort. On July 23d they crossed over the river to Wilkes-Barré, surrounded Fort Dickinson—then occupied by about one hundred Pennamites—and began an unsuccessful siege which lasted four or five days; in the course of which several lives were lost, and twenty-three houses in the village

were set on fire by the Pennamites and burnt to the ground. About ten days later Col. John Armstrong* rode into Wilkes-Barré from Easton at the head of 400 militia-men "to repress violence from whatever quarter, to establish order and restore the reign of law." Soon thereafter, by means of false promises and unfair dealing on the part of Colonel Armstrong and his coadjutors, eighty odd of the most active and belligerent Yankees were disarmed at Wilkes-Barré, taken into custody by the militia, formed in two companies and marched—in irons and under guard—the one company to Easton and the other to Sunbury, Pennsylvania.

In November, 1784, the Pennsylvania Legislature ordered that the Connecticut settlers in Wyoming should be restored to their possessions. Armstrong and his militia, having been recalled from the seat of war, evacuated Fort Dickinson Saturday, November 27th, an hour before midnight, and quietly marched out of the valley en route to Easton. Three days later nearly all the Yankees in Wyoming assembled on the River Common, Wilkes-Barré, and roused and incited by spontaneous enthusiasm and pervaded by a spirit of grim earnestness, promptly razed Fort Dickinson to the ground. The destruction of this fort (which, in the opinion of the inhabitants of Westmoreland, had stood for some time then only to harbor a horde of myrmidons whose unjust and hateful acts had made the lives of the inhabitants unhappy and their property unsafe) marked the close of the "Second Pennamite-Yankee War."

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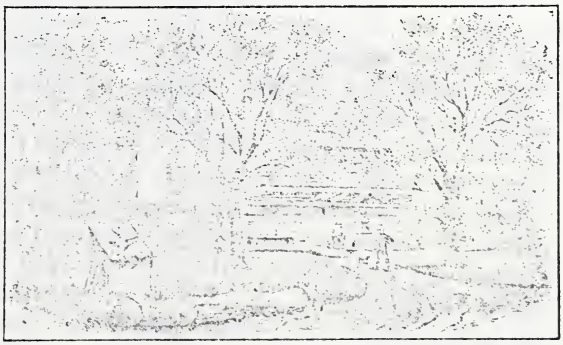
COL. JOHN FRANKLIN.

Throughout this war, as well as during the ensuing twenty years, one of the foremost, and perhaps the most active and zealous, of the Yankees in Wyoming who were battling for their rights, was Captain, later Colonel, John Franklin. He was a native of

* In the following October he was appointed Adjutant General of the Pennsylvania militia, with the rank of Brigadier General. During the Revolutionary War he had been an officer in the Continental army, and was the author of the famous "Newburg letters." A number of years later he was United States Minister to Spain, and afterwards to France. During the War of 1812 he was Secretary of War.

Canaan, Litchfield County, Connecticut, and was the first white man to settle (in 1775) in the present township of Huntington, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. In 1780 and '81 he was in command of a company of militia in the service of the United States at Wilkes-Barré; and for several years following this service he resided in this town and was a Justice of the Peace. In 1781 he represented Westmoreland in the Connecticut Assembly. In October, 1787, he was arrested in Wilkes-Barré on a charge of treason against the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (growing out of the Pennamite-Yankee troubles in Wyoming), was confined in jail at Philadelphia for nearly two years, and was then released on bail, but never brought to trial. He was elected Sheriff of Luzerne County in 1792, and in 1795-'96 and from 1799 to 1803 he was a member of the Pennsylvania Assembly from Luzerne County. He died at his home in Athens, Pennsylvania, March 1, 1831.

Eight months after the close of the "Second Pennamite-Yankee War" The Susquehanna Company held a meeting at Hartford, Connecticut, and adopted various measures relative to its affairs in Wyoming—first formally declaring, after a brief reference to the "Decree of Trenton": "Our right to those lands in possession is founded in Law and Justice—is clear and unquestionable—and we cannot and will not give it up." A plan was then adopted by the Company whereby numbers of people were shortly afterwards induced to emigrate from New England, New York, New Jersey and elsewhere and settle throughout the Wyoming region. Thus it was that the Yankees held possession of Wilkes-Barré and the country round about: but for more than fifteen years after the close of the "Second Pennamite-Yankee War" they were either harassed by litigation or hampered by legislative enactments instituted and carried through by their indefatigable enemies the Pennsylvania land-claimants. Genuine peace did not reign until after the Compromise Act of April, 1799, and its several supplements, had been passed by the Pennsylvania Legislature and been executed by the commissioners appointed for the purpose. The Act referred to was strictly one of mediation, and was adopted for the purpose of putting an end to the controversy that had been going on for so long. The purpose was accomplished. Peace was assured and prosperity became a certainty to the long-suffering New Englanders in Wyoming. The rights or claims of the settlers were ascertained and duly certified, and then all titles to lands in the Wyoming region were fairly settled and established.



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The Myers House, built near Forty Fort in 1788. It was a typical Wyoming Valley farm-house of that period, and stood for some eighty or ninety years.

Just as soon as the grounds for further combats, or even bickerings, had been removed and destroyed, and true prosperity had come to Wyoming, the popula-

tion not only of the valley but of the contiguous territory began to be increased by hundreds of desirable people who came from various parts of the country attracted by the accounts which they had heard as to the fertility of the soil, the healthfulness of the climate, and the general resourcefulness of the region along the Susquehanna River. The renown of this region extended even over seas, and during the closing years of the eighteenth century many people came from foreign shores to settle along the shores of the broad, winding river.

Thus was the Wyoming of to-day (whose hub is Wilkes-Barré, the "Diamond City"* and *the oldest town in north-eastern Pennsylvania*) born, and started on the highway to the plain of wonderful richness and prosperity which it has now occupied for many years—exquisitely beautiful in scenery, and invested by the history of the past and the Genius of Poesy with attractions not less strong or enduring. The Genius of Civilization has despoiled Wyoming of many of its natural beauties and charms, but it is still "an island of beauty in a sea of billowy mountains."

"Oh! beautiful vision of Summer delight!
Oh! marvelous sweep of th' encircling hills!
Where sunshine and shadow contend on the height,
And a deeper green follows the paths of the rills
As they leap to the valley, whose gold and green
Add the finishing charm to the exquisite scene."

By an Act of the Pennsylvania Legislature passed September 25, 1786, Luzerne County was erected out of the county of Northumberland—which had been formed in 1772 from portions of Northampton, Berks, and other counties, and included the Wyoming region. Seventeen of the townships (Wilkes-Barré among the number) which had been laid out in the Wyoming region by The Susquehanna Company, and had been more or less settled under the auspices of that Company, were comprehended in the new county of Luzerne, and "Wilkesburg" (Wilkes-Barré being meant) was named as the county-town in the Act of Assembly previously mentioned.

In a supplement to this Act passed in 1788 the name of the town was spelled "Wilkesborough"; and during 1787 and 1788 it seems to have been written and printed indiscriminately, by various persons, "Wilkesborough", "Wilkesburrough", "Wilkesboro" and "Wilkesbury". Col. Timothy Pickering, for a short time after he took up his residence in Wilkes-Barré in 1787, used the form "Wilkesburg", and then for awhile he wrote the name "Wilkesborough"; but later, having ascertained what the real name of the town was, he wrote it always "Wilkesbarre". Concerning the matter of the name he wrote in January, 1789, to President Mifflin of the Supreme Executive Council of the State as follows: "I find the name originally given to it by the New England people, and which appears in their records, is 'Wilkes Barre', by which name they designate not only the *town*, but the *township* of five miles square."

* Why "Diamond City"? "Because the Public Square in the center of the town is diamond-shaped—having been originally surveyed in that form. Because the town is entirely underlaid with a vast wealth of black diamonds, and is overlaid with hospitality, cultivation and beauty—qualities which, like the chief characteristics of the diamond, are distinctive and attractive."—*Harvey's "History of Wilkes-Barré."*

THE ROSS HOUSE, ON SOUTH MAIN STREET.

Next to the oldest structure in Wilkes-Barré. In its original form (considerably smaller and much less pretentious than it is at present) it was erected by Col. Timothy Pickering, in 1787-'88.

Col. Timothy Pickering, a native of Massachusetts, but for several years prior to 1787 a resident of Philadelphia, was for some time Adjutant General and for four years Quartermaster General of the armies of the United States

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Residence erected by Lord Butler in 1793-'94, corner of River and Northampton Streets.

during the Revolutionary War. In 1791, upon his removal from Wilkes-Barré (whither he had come from Philadelphia in 1787, as hereinafter related), he was appointed by President Washington Postmaster General. Later he was Secre-

NORTH RIVER STREET, BETWEEN MARKET AND UNION.

VIEW SOUTH FROM ROOF OF CROCKER BUILDING.

tary of War, then Secretary of State of the United States, then Senator and later Representative from Massachusetts in the Congress of the United States.

Colonel Pickering came to Wilkes-Barré early in 1787 as the special representative of the Government of Pennsylvania to organize the new county of Luzerne. Under his supervision an election was held on February 1st for a Councilor (a member of the Supreme Executive Council of the State), a Representative to the General Assembly, a Sheriff, a Coroner and six Justices of the Peace for the county. The election took place at the dwelling-house of Col. Zebulon Butler. This was a log building, which stood at the south-east corner of River and Northampton Streets, Wilkes-Barré, from 1773 till 1793, and then gave way for the frame residence (herein pictured) erected by Gen. Lord Butler, which was demolished in 1867 to permit of the erection of the present residence of Mrs. Stanley Woodward—a great-granddaughter of Col. Zebulon Butler.

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VIEW ON SOUTH RIVER STREET, NEAR NORTHAMPTON STREET, ABOUT 1861.

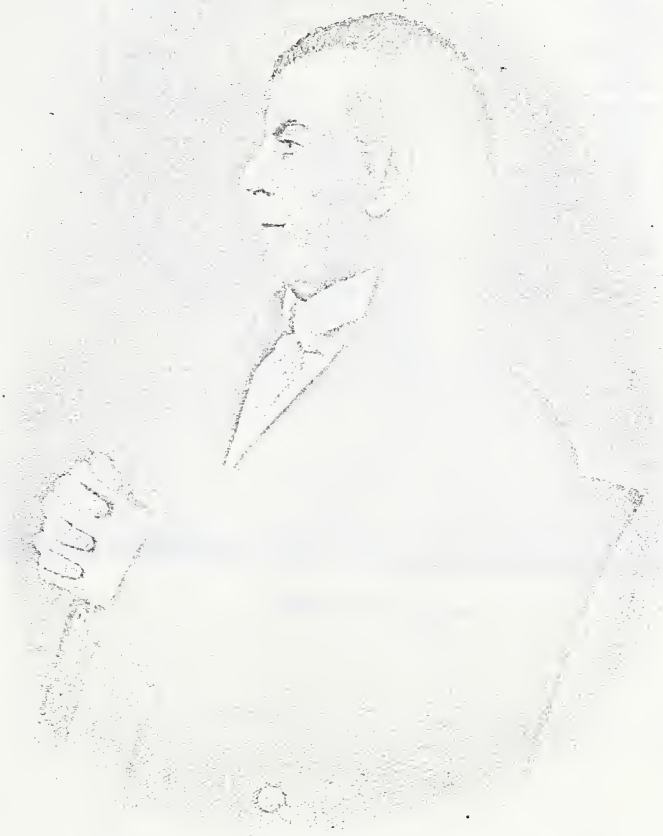
Showing the Lord Butler, Jonathan J. Slocum, and John W. Robinson houses.

Nathan Denison was elected to represent Luzerne County in the Supreme Executive Council. He had been Lieutenant Colonel and then Colonel of the 24th Regiment, Connecticut Militia (see page 31), and from 1776 till 1783 was Judge of the Court of Probate for Westmoreland. The men who were elected

EAST MARKET STREET.

VIEW NORTH-EAST—FROM ROOF OF CROCKER BUILDING.

Justices of the Peace were duly commissioned as such by the Supreme Executive Council, and also—together with Colonel Pickering—were "assigned" and commissioned "Justices of the County Court of Common Pleas in and for the county of Luzerne." Colonel Pickering was also appointed and commis-



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LIEUT. COL. MATTHIAS HOLLENBACK.

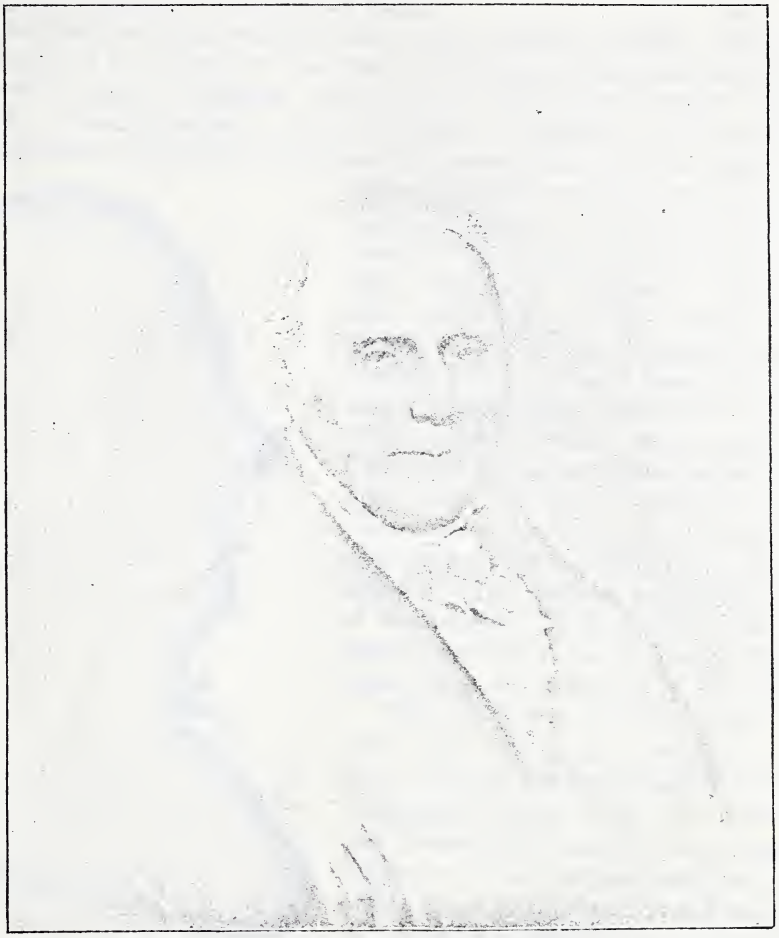
One of the original Justices of the Luzerne County Court; the first Treasurer of Luzerne County; a survivor of the battle of Wyoming; Lieutenant Colonel (commissioned in 1787) commanding the first organized battalion of Luzerne County militia; a member of the first Town Council of Wilkes-Barré; Burgess of the borough of Wilkes Barré, 1819-'20.

sioned Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas, Clerk of the Orphans' Court and the Court of Quarter Sessions, Register of Wills and Recorder of Deeds in and for Luzerne County. May 29, 1787, the first Luzerne County Court (a Court of Common Pleas) was held at the dwelling-house of Col. Zebulon Butler, previously mentioned.

WEST MARKET STREET.

VIEW OF BOWMAN'S HILL—FROM ROOF OF CROCKER BUILDING.

Col. John Franklin (see page 38), who had been elected February 1, 1787, to represent Luzerne County in the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, declined to accept the office; whereupon, in the following October, a new election for Representative was held and Capt. John Paul Schott of Wilkes-Barré was chosen. He took his seat in the Assembly at Philadelphia on the 24th of the same month. Captain Schott was born in Berlin, Prussia, in 1744. Having served for several



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CAPT. JOHN PAUL SCHOTT.
The first Representative from Luzerne County to sit in the Pennsylvania Assembly.

years as a Lieutenant in the Prussian army, he came in 1775 to America, where he offered his services to the Continental Congress, and by that body was commissioned a Captain in the Continental Army in September, 1776. Captain Schott came to Wilkes-Barré first in May, 1779, as an officer in Sullivan's expedition against the Six Nation Indians. He was stationed at "Wyoming

Post" (see page 36) from October, 1779, till March, 1781—during a part of which time he was commandant of the post. Early in 1782, having resigned from the Continental service, he settled in Wilkes-Barré, and during the ensuing twenty years he was, as inn-keeper, shop-keeper, a militia officer, and the holder of various public offices, quite prominent and influential in the affairs of the community. In 1804 he removed to Philadelphia, where, for many years, he was an Inspector at the Custom House.

According to official returns made in the Autumn of 1787 to Colonel Butler, Lieutenant of the County of Luzerne, "all the men in the county [at that time] between the ages of eighteen and fifty-three fell short of 700." This would indicate a total population of about 3,500. According to the official United States Census of 1790 the population of Luzerne County in that year was 4,904, including eleven slaves. The records of the Census Bureau do not set forth the population of Wilkes-Barré in 1790, but in 1800 it (the township) contained a population of 835, while that of the county numbered 12,839. In 1790 the Luzerne County Court divided the county into eleven townships (of which Wilkes-Barré was one), regardless of the township divisions which had been established and the names which had been bestowed upon them while the Wyoming region was under the jurisdiction of Connecticut. In consequence, the territory of the Wilkes-Barré of 1790 was not only larger than that of the original Wilkes-Barré, but was very much larger than the combined areas of the present city and township of Wilkes-Barré.

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THE FIRST BURGESS OF WILKES-BARRE.

The population of Wilkes-Barré—particularly of the village, or "town-plot"—increased slowly; but by the beginning of 1806 (nearly thirty-seven years after the township had been located and named) the village, in the judgment of its foremost men, had arrived at such a stage of importance and worthiness in its onward progression as warranted its erection into a borough. Whereupon the Hon. Rosewell Welles (a resident of Wilkes-Barré, a member of the Bar, a former Associate Judge of the Luzerne County Courts, and in 1805 and 1806 one of the two Representatives from Luzerne County in the Pennsylvania Legislature) introduced a Bill in the House of Representatives providing for the incorporation into a borough of the

"town-plot" of Wilkes-Barré, together with the adjacent River Common* and a strip of land adjoining the north-east boundary of the "town-plot." This bill was enacted into a law (approved by the Governor March 17, 1806), the legal title of the new "body politic and corporate" being declared to be "The Burgess and Town Council of the Borough of Wilkesbarre." The Hon. Jesse Fell† of Wilkes-Barré was named in the Act of Incorporation as a commissioner to issue the proclamation for holding the first election for borough officers.

Under the date of April 25, 1806, Judge Fell issued his proclamation, which was printed in *The Luzerne Federalist* (Wilkes-Barré) of April 25 and May 2. The qualified electors of the new borough were therein notified to meet at the Court House on Tuesday, May 6, 1806, between the hours of twelve o'clock noon and six o'clock in the evening, to vote for one person to serve as Burgess, seven persons to serve as members of the Town Council, and one person to serve as High Constable, during the ensuing year. The electors having assembled at the time and place appointed, and the proper officers for conducting the election having been chosen and duly sworn and affirmed, the votes (less than a hundred in number) were cast, with the following results: The Hon. Jesse Fell was chosen Burgess; Col. Matthias Hollenback, the Hon. Rosewell Welles, Brig. Gen. Lord Butler, Arnold Colt, Esq., Nathan Palmer, Esq., Capt. Samuel Bowman and the Hon. Charles Miner were chosen members of the Town Council; George Griffin, Esq., was chosen High Constable.

Saturday, May 10th, the Town Council was organized at the Court House, Lord Butler being elected President of the body for the ensuing year, and Capt. Peleg Tracy being appointed Clerk.

As to the personnel of the first Town Council of Wilkes-Barré: Colonel Hollenback (see page 45) was an early settler in Wyoming Valley, and for many years prior to his death (which occurred at Wilkes-Barré February 18, 1829) was the leading merchant and the wealthiest citizen in north-eastern

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* Originally dedicated to the common and public uses of the proprietors of the township of Wilkes-Barré. See page 23.

† Jesse Fell, whose parents were members of the Society of Friends, or Quakers, was born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, April 16, 1751, and died at Wilkes-Barré August 11, 1830. With his wife and four children he settled in Wilkes-Barré in the latter part of 1785, and from 1788 until his death he kept an inn at the sign of the "Buck", at the north-east corner of the present Northampton and Washington Streets. For many years after his death the building — then considerably modernized—was known as the "Old Fell House."

Jesse Fell was Sheriff of Luzerne County from October, 1789, till January, 1792, when he was appointed and commissioned Lieutenant of the County to succeed Col. Zebulon Butler. In this office he served till April, 1793, when he was commissioned Brigade Inspector of the "Luzerne Militia Brigade." In February, 1798, he was commissioned by Governor Mifflin one of the Associate Judges of the Courts of Luzerne County, and this office he filled with dignity and credit for a period of thirty-two and a-half years, terminated only by his death. As previously noted, he was the first Burgess of the borough of Wilkes-Barré. Subsequently he served five consecutive terms as Burgess, to wit: from May, 1814, to May, 1819. He was a member of the Town Council for many years, and served as its President from May, 1809, to May, 1810, May, 1811, to May, 1814, and May, 1820 to May, 1823. He held various other offices of trust and importance in the community.

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JESSE FELL'S INN, AT THE SIGN OF THE "BUCK."

Borough of Wilkes Barre

By virtue of Authority to me given, by an Act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania passed the 17th day of March last entitled an Act "To incorporate the Town of Wilkes-Barre and its vicinity in the County of Luzerne into a Borough" I hereby give to the persons entitled to vote for members of the Legislature who have resided two months immediately preceding the election within the limits of the said Borough to meet at the Court House on Monday the 6th day of May next and then and there elect by ballot between the hours of 12 & 6 O'Clock of said day one upright citizen residing therein for Burgess of the Borough and seven upright citizens residing therein who shall be Town Council, and also one upright citizen as High Constable for the ensuing year, and also previously elect two upright citizens as Judges, one Inspector and two Clerks of said Election

Office 25 1816

Jesse Fell

We, the Subscribers Judges of the Election held on the Sixth day of May A.D. 1816 at the Court House in Wilkes Barre for the purpose of electing the officers of the Borough of Wilkes Barre, agreeably to the Law passed for that purpose March 17th 1816 do certify that the following persons have been elected to fill the offices to which their names are attached — to wit

Burgess of the Borough —
Jesse Fell —

Town Council
Matthias Hollenback
Roswell Ross
Lord Butler
Amasa Cole
Esther Palmer
Charles Shaw
Samuel Bowman

High Constable —
George Griffin —

Thomas Bowman
John Pickett } Judges of Election

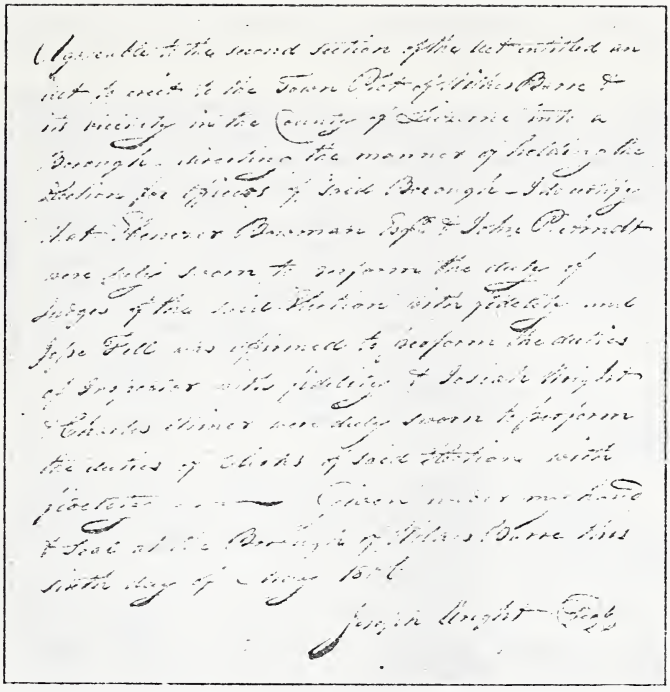

Photo-reproduction of the oaths of office of the first election-board, as recorded by the Town Clerk in the original minute-book of the borough

Pennsylvania. At the time of his election to the Town Council he was one of the Associate Judges of the Courts of Luzerne County, and this office he held for a period of thirty-eight years and over.

The Hon. Rosewell Welles is mentioned on page 48.

Arnold Colt was a native of Lyme, New London County, Connecticut, where he was born September 10, 1760. His father, Capt. Harris Colt, was in Wyoming Valley at various times prior to the Revolutionary War, and, as a member of The Susquehanna Company, was one of the original proprietors of the township of Wilkes-Barré. In 1786 Arnold Colt came from Lyme to Wilkes-Barré, where he located, and was married the next year to Lucinda, daughter of Abel Yarington, one of the early Wyoming settlers from Connecticut. In March, 1790, Mr. Colt became Town Clerk of Wilkes-Barré, and in 1791 he was appointed and commissioned a Justice of the Peace in and for the township of Wilkes-Barré, to hold office during good behavior. In November, 1798, he was elected Sheriff of Luzerne County for a term of three years, and upon his retirement from this office he served as Commissioner of the county for three years. From June, 1826, to May, 1827, and from May, 1828, to May, 1829, he was President of the Town Council of Wilkes-Barré. He held other local offices, and was for some time an inn-keeper at Wilkes-Barré,

I the subscriber one of the Justices of the Peace in and for the County of Luzerne do certify that Jesse Fell personally appeared before me and was duly affirmed to support the Constitution of the United States and of the State of Pennsylvania, and to perform the duties of Burgess of the Borough of Wilkes-Barre with fidelity —

Given under my hand and seal this tenth day of May A.D. 1806 —

Joseph Wright (Seal)

Before me, one of the Justices for the County of Luzerne, personally appeared, Arnold Colt — Matthias Hollenback, Lord Butler, Nathan Palmer Samuel Bowman and Charles Miner — who were duly sworn, to support the Constitution of the United States and State of Pennsylvania and to perform the duties of Councillors for the Borough of Wilkes Barre with fidelity —

Given under my hand and seal May 10. 1806 —

Joseph Wright (Seal)

Luzerne County ss —

Before me one of the Justices for the County aforesaid personally came Roswell Wiles who being duly sworn do declare that he would support the Constitution of the United States — that of the State of Pennsylvania and that he would to the best of his abilities perform the duties of a Councillor for the Borough of Wilkes Barre with fidelity —

Given under my hand & seal May 12. 1806

Joseph Wright (Seal)

Photo-reproduction of the oaths of office of the first Burgess and members of the first Town Council, as recorded by the Town Clerk in the original minute-book of the borough.

Borough of Wilkes Barre May 10th 1806 —

Said Butler, Harold Colt, Mathias Hollenback
Samuel Bowman, Nathan Palmer &
Charles Miner Elected members of the Town
Council met at the Court House in said
Borough & were sworn into office —

Said Butler was appointed Chairman of the
present meeting —

On Motion Resolved Ezra Thomas was
appointed Town Clerk for the ensuing —
year —

Moved and Seconded that a committee of three
be appointed to form rules & regulations for
the Town Council — Nathan Palmer
Bennett Stiles & Charles Miner being
nominated was appointed — and to report
at a future meeting —

Moved & Seconded that a committee of three
be appointed to form by laws for the Borough
the foregoing Committee being nominated
was appointed —

Moved & seconded that Hugh Conner and
Peter Pennington be appointed Street
Commissioners for the ensuing year —
appointment accordingly and the Clerk directed
to notify them of their appointment

Adjourned to Monday 3 o'Clock
A.M.

Photo-reproduction of the minutes of the first meeting of the Town Council.

at Tioga Point, and then at a point on the Easton and Wilkes-Barré Turnpike near Stoddartsville. He died in Wilkes-Barré September 21, 1832.

Nathan Palmer was born at Plainfield, Windham County, Connecticut, in 1769. Having been admitted in 1791 or 1792 to practise law before the Supreme Court of Connecticut, he removed in 1793 to Pennsylvania, and the next year located in Wilkes-Barré, where he was soon admitted to the Bar of Luzerne County. In 1795 and 1797 he was Clerk to the Commissioners of Luzerne County, and in January, 1800, he was appointed by Governor McKean Clerk of the Orphans' Court and of the Court of Quarter Sessions, Prothonotary, Register of Wills and Recorder of Deeds of Luzerne County for the term of three years, to succeed Lord Butler. In 1806, and for several years about that time, he was engaged in mercantile business in Wilkes-Barré, and from 1808 to 1810 he represented Luzerne County in the Senate of Pennsylvania. In December, 1812, he was appointed Treasurer of the county. About 1819 he removed from Wilkes-Barré to Mount Holly, New Jersey, where, until about the time of his death (which occurred July 28, 1842), he edited the *Mount Holly Mirror*.

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ARNOLD COLT.

Capt. Samuel Bowman was born in Lexington, Massachusetts, December 2, 1753. During the Revolutionary War he served in the Massachusetts Line, first as Ensign and then as Lieutenant. He was an original member of the Society of the Cincinnati. He immigrated to Wyoming Valley in 1786, and settled just north of the Wilkes-Barré town-plot on a tract of land including what, for many years now, has been known as "Bowman's Hill." In January, 1799, he was commissioned by President Adams a Captain in the provisional army then being raised by the United States in view of an expected war with France. Captain Bowman and his company (which had been enlisted at

Wilkes-Barré) were in service in New Jersey from July, 1799, till September, 1800. Captain Bowman died at his home on "Bowman's Hill" June 25, 1818.

Charles Miner—the youngest member of the Town Council—was born at Norwich, New London County, Connecticut, February 1, 1780, the son of Seth and Anna (*Charlton*) Miner. In the Summer of 1800 he located in Wilkes-Barré, where his elder brother Asher was already established. In January, 1801, the latter began the publication at Wilkes-Barré of *The Luzerne County Federalist*, a weekly newspaper of four small pages. In May, 1802, Charles Miner became the partner of his brother in editing and publishing the *Federalist*. This partnership continued until May, 1804, when it was dissolved, and Charles Miner continued as the sole editor and proprietor of the paper until May, 1809. In 1811 Mr. Miner and Steuben Butler began the publication of *The Gleaner, and Luzerne Advertiser*. In 1808, 1809 and 1813 Mr. Miner was one of the Representatives from Luzerne County in the Pennsylvania Legislature. In July, 1817, Mr. Miner took up his residence in West Chester, Chester County, Pennsylvania, where he had purchased *The Chester and Delaware Federalist*. Under this name he edited and published the paper until January, 1818, when he changed the name to *The Village Record*. In 1824 and again in 1826 Mr. Miner was elected to represent the district composed of the counties of Chester, Delaware and Lancaster in the National House of Representatives. In 1832 Mr. Miner disposed of his interest in the *Record* and removed from West Chester to Wyoming Valley, establishing himself on a farm in the township of Wilkes-Barré, later Plains, within the limits of the present borough of Miner's Mills. For a number of years thereafter he devoted a great deal of time to gathering material for and writing a "History of Wyoming," which was published in 1845. He died at his home in Plains Township October 26, 1865, in the eighty-sixth year of his age—the last survivor, by many years, of the original Town Council of Wilkes-Barré.

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CHARLES MINER.

Lord Butler was born December 11, 1761, at Lyme, New London County, Connecticut, the eldest child of Zebulon Butler (see page 27) and his first wife Anne Lord. With the other members of his father's family he came to Wilkes-Barré in 1772. In October, 1778, he was appointed by his father—then in command of "Wyoming Post"—Quartermaster at the post. The duties of this appointment he performed until the following January, when he was appointed Acting Deputy Quartermaster in the Continental establish-

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BRIG. GEN. LORD BUTLER.
President of the first Town Council of Wilkes-Barré.

ment, and Quartermaster at Wyoming Post. He was then only a few weeks past seventeen years of age. In October, 1779, he was promoted Acting Deputy Quartermaster General, and this office he held until February, 1783, when the Continental garrison was withdrawn from Wilkes-Barré. As previously noted Lord Butler served as the first Sheriff of Luzerne County. August 17, 1791, he was appointed and commissioned Prothonotary, Clerk of the Orphans' Court and of the Court of Quarter Sessions, Register of Wills and Recorder of Deeds in and for Luzerne County, as the successor of Colonel Pickering, and these various offices he held until January, 1800, when Nathan Palmer (previously mentioned) was appointed to succeed him. In April, 1799, Lord Butler was commissioned a Brigadier General of the Pennsylvania militia. He was Treasurer of Luzerne County in 1801, '02 and '03. He was the first Postmaster at Wilkes-Barré, being appointed in 1794 and holding the office till 1802, when he resigned to take his seat (for one term) in the Pennsylvania Legislature as one of the two Representatives from Luzerne County.

General Butler acted as temporary Chairman (see page 53) at the first meeting of the Town Council of Wilkes-Barré, and at the second meeting, held on May 12th, he was elected President of the Council for the ensuing year. He was re-elected to the office in May, 1807, and served until May, 1808. He continued to be a member of the Council until May, 1809, when, having been elected Burgess, he entered upon the duties of that office. By successive elections he held the office of Burgess until May, 1814. From 1815 till 1818 he was one of the Commissioners of Luzerne County. He died at his residence (pictured on page 41) in Wilkes-Barré March 3, 1824.

SOUTH FRANKLIN STREET.

SOUTH RIVER STREET.

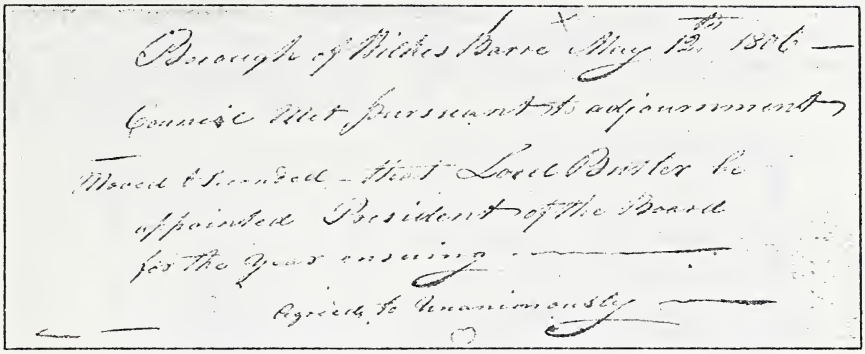


Photo-reproduction of part of the original minutes of the meeting of Town Council held May 12, 1806.

Capt. Peleg Tracy, the first "Town Clerk" of the borough of Wilkes-Barré, and *ex officio* Secretary of the Town Council, was born in 1775 at Norwich, New London County, Connecticut, whence he removed to Wilkes-

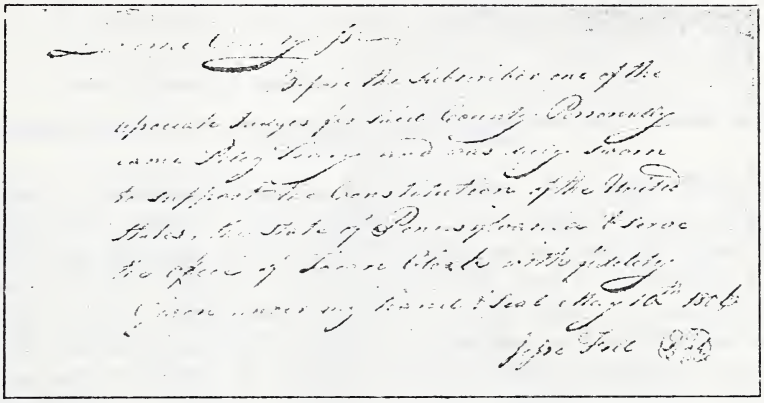


Photo-reproduction of the oath of office of Town Clerk Tracy, as recorded in the borough minute-book.

Barré about 1803 or '04. In February, 1806, he was appointed Clerk to the Commissioners of Luzerne County. He served as Clerk of the borough from May, 1806, until some time in 1809, when he was succeeded by Sidney Tracy. In August, 1806, he was one of the organizers of "The Wilkes-Barré Library Company," and was its first Secretary, Treasurer and Librarian. He was Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Wilkes-Barré Academy in 1808, '09 and '10. In 1818 he was Secretary of the Easton and Wilkes-Barré Turnpike Company. Captain Tracy died at his residence at the north-east corner of Union and Franklin Streets, Wilkes-Barré, March 12, 1825.

In announcing in his paper (the *Federalist*) of May 9, 1806, the result of the first borough election, Charles Miner stated: "The person elected High Constable is absent, and it is not known whether he will accept the office."

As previously mentioned, George Griffin had been elected High Constable, but upon his return home from a temporary absence he promptly and indignantly refused to accept the office. Whereupon, due notice having been given, a special election for High Constable was held June 28, 1806, and Peter

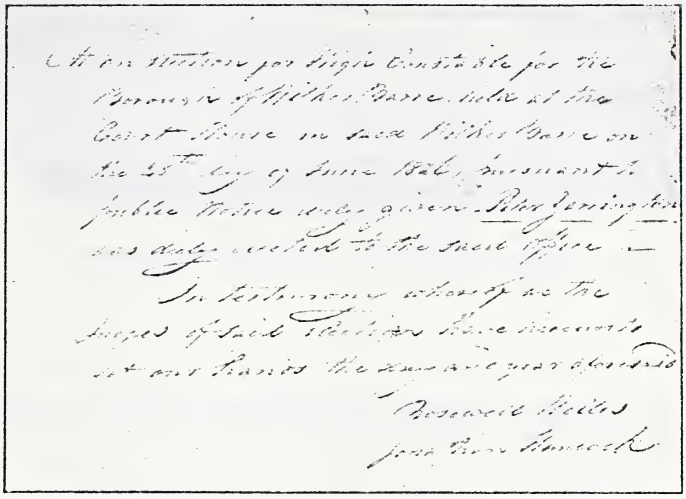
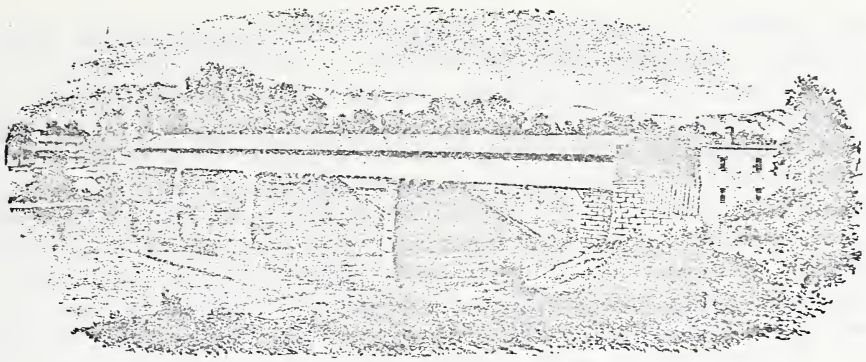


Photo-reproduction of the return made by the Judges of the election of High Constable Yarington, as recorded by the Town Clerk.

Yarington, a blacksmith, and a brother-in-law of Arnold Colt, previously mentioned, was chosen. The election of Mr. Griffin to the office of High Constable was intended by his fellow-citizens as a practical-joke. He was a graduate of Yale College in the class of 1797, and in 1806 was a busy and successful lawyer, having been admitted to the Bar of Luzerne County in 1800. He had been married in 1801 to a daughter of Col. Zebulon Butler. In the latter part of 1806 Mr. Griffin removed with his family to the city of New York, and it has been stated that the immediate cause of his leaving Wilkes-Barré was the perpetration of the abovementioned joke. In the course of a few years Mr. Griffin became one of the most eminent and successful lawyers at the New York Bar. In 1830 the degree of LL. D. was conferred upon him by Columbia College. He died in New York May 6, 1860—"the Nestor of the Bar; eloquent, learned and painstaking", as he was described by David Dudley Field, himself a great lawyer.

The original rules and regulations adopted by the Town Council for its government provided that its regular meetings should be held at the Court House on the first Saturday of each month, at nine o'clock in the morning; and that a member should be fined two dollars for an absence from a regular meeting, and one dollar for an absence from a special meeting. At the second meeting of the Council (held May 12th) Mr. Miner moved the adoption of the following: *"Resolved,* That it will be an accommodation to the public to have two ferries established, one of which shall be from the Center Street



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THE MARKET STREET BRIDGE FROM THE RIVER COMMON, IN 1850.

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TOLL-HOUSE AT THE WILKES-BARRÉ END OF THE MARKET STREET BRIDGE.

From a photograph taken about 1885.

[the present Market Street] of the borough." Action on this resolution was "postponed", but the following, introduced by Mr. Welles, was adopted: "*Voted,* That the ferry to be kept by the corporation over the Susquehanna, within the limits of the borough, shall be kept opposite Northampton Street."

It may be noted in this connection that it was not until the Spring of 1817 that the work of erecting a bridge across the Susquehanna at Wilkes-Barré was begun. The public ferry being located at the foot of Northampton Street, the stockholders of the bridge company arranged to erect their structure at the foot of Center (now Market) Street. After many delays, caused by unavoidable and expensive disasters, the Market Street Bridge was finally completed and opened to public travel early in December, 1825—the occasion being celebrated by the firing of cannon, and the serving of an elaborate dinner to a large company of citizens of Wilkes-Barré and vicinity.

At the third meeting of the Town Council (held May 14, 1806) a design for a seal for the borough was submitted by Mr. Miner, and the same was adopted. (See an engraving of the seal on a subsequent page.) At this same meeting Mr. Miner submitted the following resolution, which was adopted: "*Resolved,* That a committee be appointed to endeavor to obtain from the township a release or conveyance to the corporation of the public lands within the limits of the borough; and to stipulate on behalf of the corporation that the borough will expend the avails of it to *the security of the bank from the inroads of the river,* and making such other improvements as may be found necessary."

When the borough of Wilkes-Barré was incorporated its population was between 350 and 400. Owing to its isolated situation (Sunbury and Easton were the nearest sizable towns—the former being distant sixty miles and the latter sixty-five miles), and the difficulty of access to it both by the river and by the rough mountain roads, the borough did not grow rapidly, with respect to either its buildings or its inhabitants. In 1810 the population of the borough and township combined was only 1,225; and in 1817 there were only ninety-two dwelling-houses, besides shops, etc., in the borough, with a population of 550. However, with the assumption of new municipal rights and dignities a certain change came over the town, and some of the slow-going citizens braced up, got busy, and began to make things look pleasant. For instance, early in 1807 Joseph Slocum, a brother of Frances Slocum, previously mentioned, and a son-in-law of Burgess Jesse Fell, began the erection on the

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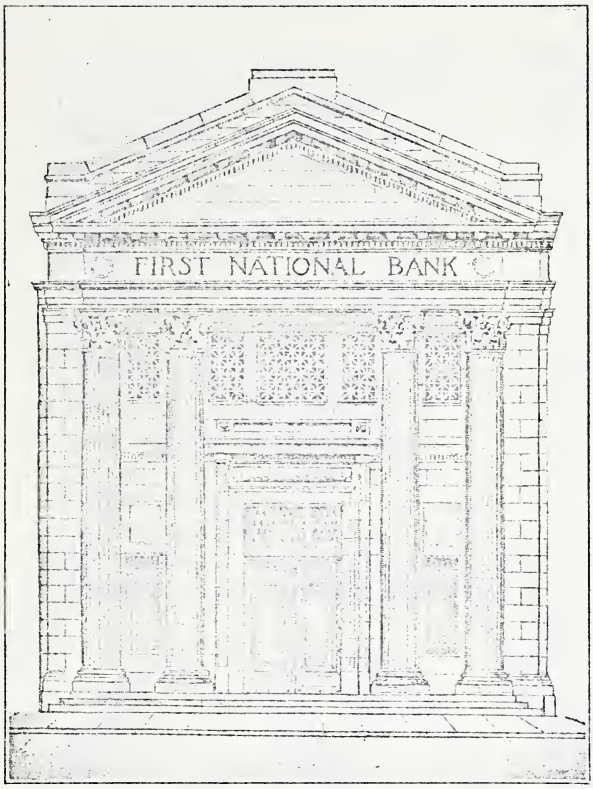
RESIDENCE OF JOSEPH SLOCUM.
From a photograph taken in 1858.



THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING.
Now being erected.

south side of Public Square of a brick residence three and a-half stories high, which was not only the first building of such a height, but was the first brick building, to be erected in north-eastern Pennsylvania. This building was occupied as a residence (first by Joseph Slocum and afterwards by his son-in-law, Lord Nelson Butler) for sixty odd years; and then, having been remodeled, it was devoted to business purposes until its demolishment in April, 1906, to make way for the erection of a new building for the First National Bank. In its last years the first floor of the Slocum building was occupied by a book-and stationery-shop—at one time owned by S. L. Brown, and then by J. C. Madden.

The first twenty-nine miles (reckoning from Wilkes-Barré) of the Easton and Wilkes-Barré Turnpike were completed in 1806, and soon thereafter the whole distance from Wilkes-Barré to the Wind Gap, forty-six miles, was finished.

In March, 1807, the Wilkes-Barré Academy was incorporated, and received from the State an appropriation of $2,000. Burgess Fell, six of the seven members of the Town Council (viz.: Messrs. Butler, Welles, Hollenback, Bowman, Colt and Miner) and Town Clerk Tracy were among the seventeen incorporators who composed the first Board of Trustees of the Academy. The Trustees obtained from the Commissioners of Luzerne County permission to use for school purposes the old log Court House which had stood on the site of Fort Wilkes-Barré (see page 32), and which had been removed about 1801 to the northern half of Public Square to make room for what was then styled the new Court House. The Trustees clapboarded the old building, erected a cupola on its roof—in which a fifty-pound bell was hung—and opened the school in

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THE OLD ACADEMY.

the Summer of 1807. In 1808 Garrick Mallery, a graduate of Yale College, became the Principal of the Academy, and under his management the institution advanced to considerable eminence. Soon many students came to the Academy from other localities, and about the year 1810 the little borough of Wilkes-Barré could boast of possessing more learning and literary culture within its limits than any other village or borough of Pennsylvania.

From 1810 to 1812 one of the assistant teachers in the Academy was Andrew Beaumont of Wilkes-Barré, who in later years was one of the best known and most influential citizens in north-eastern Pennsylvania. He was born in 1791 at Lebanon, Connecticut, and died at Wilkes-Barré September 30, 1853. From 1816 to 1819 he was Prothonotary and Clerk of the Courts of Luzerne County. In 1822, 1823 and 1850 he was one of the Representatives from Luzerne County in the Pennsylvania Legislature. From 1826 till 1832 he was Postmaster of Wilkes-Barré. In 1832 and again in 1834 he was elected a Representative to Congress from the district which included Luzerne County.

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ANDREW BEAUMONT.

FROM OSCAR J. HARVEY'S FORTHCOMING "HISTORY OF WILKES-BARRÉ." COPYRIGHTED

JACOB CIST.

Postmaster of Wilkes-Barré from October, 1808 till December, 1825; a leading merchant of the borough for seventeen years; Treasurer of Luzerne County in 1816; Treasurer of the Wilkes-Barré Bridge Company, 1816-18, and one of the first Wilkes-Barréans to engage in the mining and marketing of anthracite coal.

In 1808, at Wilkes-Barré, occurred that incident which, probably more than any other in the life of our town, tended to bring not only the town but Wyoming Valley to the attention of the general public, and produced results which led to the development of the great natural resources of the valley; whereby, in the years that have since passed, countless millions of money and a vast amount of comfort and happiness have been enjoyed by untold numbers of people.

Wilkes-Barré is the birth-place of the anthracite coal-mining industry! It was here the discovery was made that there existed on this continent such a mineral as anthracite (or "stone-coal" as it was early called). Here anthracite was first used for fires in naileries and blacksmiths' shops; and was thus used for upwards of twenty years before the existence of anthracite in any part of Pennsylvania save Wyoming Valley was known. As early as 1766, again in 1776, and then from time to time during the ensuing thirty-two years, boat loads of anthracite were conveyed from here down the Susquehanna to be used in forges and smithies. Here anthracite first came into use as a fuel for domestic purposes. In February, 1808, Judge Jesse Fell discovered, as the result of an experiment carried out at his inn (see page 49), that "the common stone-coal of the valley" could be burned in a grate in an ordinary fire-place, without a forced draft: in consequence of which it was useful for domestic purposes. Three or four years before Judge Fell made his experiment, anthracite had been burned in "a close stove, and also in a fire-place that could be opened and closed at pleasure", by certain experimenters in the city of Philadelphia. The results of these Philadelphia experiments were evidently considered of insufficient importance to be made known to the general public; and so, not

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BRIG. GEN. ISAAC BOWMAN.

Member of the Town Council, 1810-'11; Coroner of Luzerne County, 1810-'13; Sheriff of the County, 1819-'22; Recorder of Deeds and Register of Wills of the County, 1830-'36 and 1839-'42; Brigadier General, Pennsylvania Militia, 1821-'28.

only the people in Wyoming, but the world at large, remained in ignorance as to the full and true value of "stone-coal" until they were enlightened by the published results of Jesse Fell's experiment.

The following paragraphs will show to the reader of to-day how, in the year 1810, the four-year-old borough of Wilkes-Barré is supposed to have appeared

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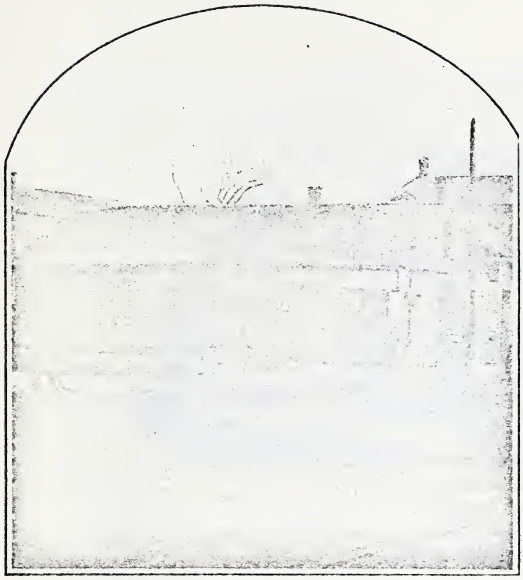
DAVID SCOTT.

Admitted to the Bar of Luzerne County January 3, 1809; President Judge of the Courts of Luzerne County 1818-'38; Burgess of Wilkes-Barré, May, 1821, to May, 1827.

to the eyes of a local scribe of sarcastic proclivities. These paragraphs are from an alleged communication (purporting to have been written by a stranger sojourning in Wilkes-Barré) which was printed in *The Luzerne Federalist* in the year mentioned.

"Came down into the town; found it regularly laid out—a handsome place—though too many small houses for beauty. Streets terribly muddy—almost impossible to get along I wonder the inhabitants don't have a side-walk, at least, so that foot-people may not have their



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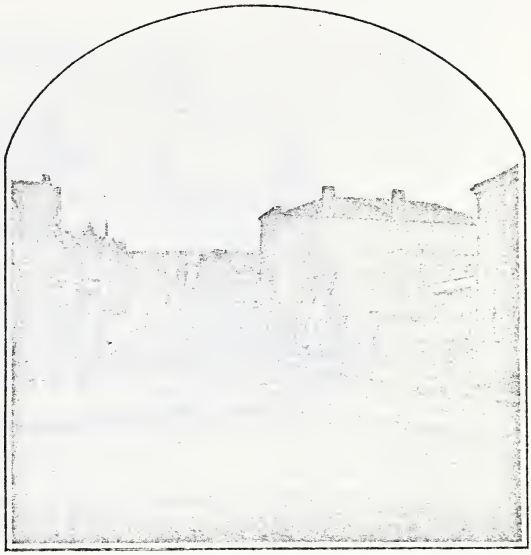
THE OLD SINTON STORE-HOUSE.

It stood for many years at the south-west corner of Franklin and Market Streets, and was demolished in 1860, in order that the Wyoming [National] Bank building might be erected.



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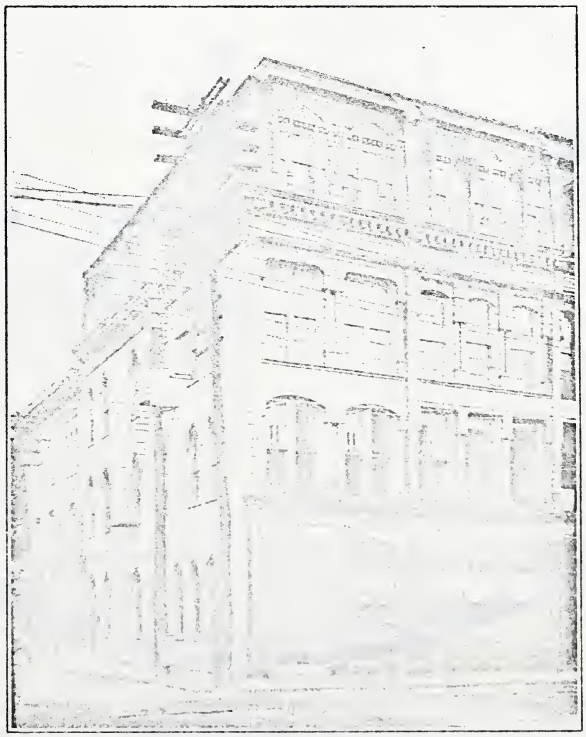
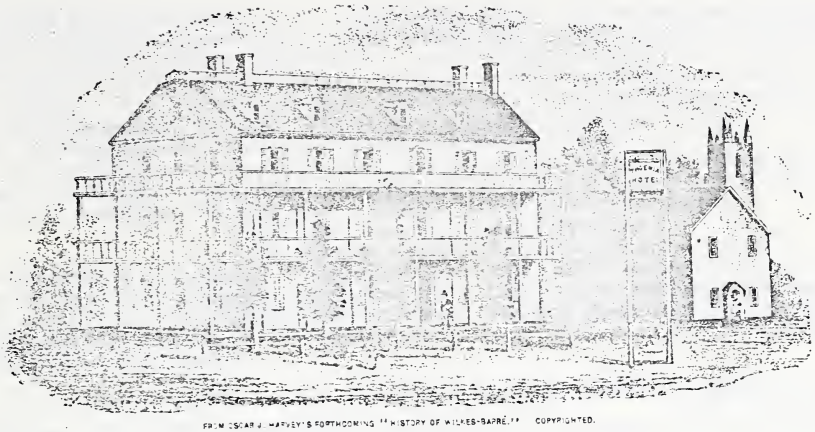
WEST MARKET STREET FROM THE CORNER OF RIVER.

From a Photograph taken in 1858.



WYOMING NATIONAL BANK.



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PHOENIX HOTEL, IN 1850.

For many years it was the principal hostelry in the town. It stood on River Street, south of Market and was torn down early in 1865.

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WYOMING VALLEY HOTEL.

(From a photograph taken in 1868.)

This building was erected in 1865-'66 on the site of the old "Phoenix."

legs pulled out by the roots. * * * Walked up to the corner of the place [Public Square]. Saw a meeting-house—good sign, though seldom seen in this county; a court-house; an academy—I guess—with one end fenced in; a jail, probably, judging by the high yard fence. [See page 62.] Four public buildings—religion, justice, knowledge and iniquity. Curious compound! * * * Two men rode up from the river; one horse kicked up and threw the rider head and heels in the mud. The people all flocked around just as they do to see dogs fight. Made inquiry and found the man was a Methodist minister. * * *

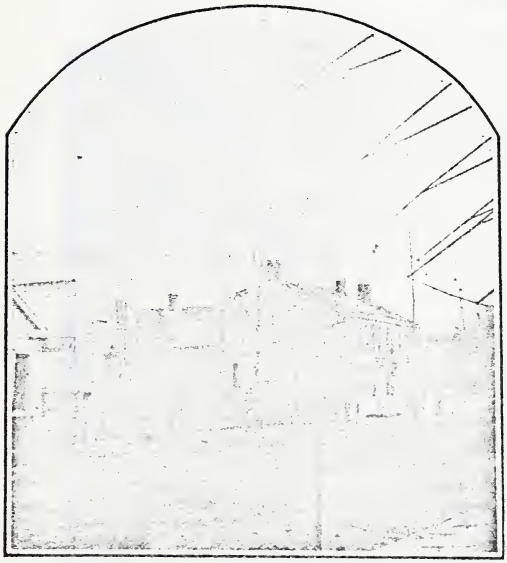
"After breakfast walked around town. At eleven o'clock went by the Academy—steeple as big as an eel-basket. Saw a number of great, tall boys leaning against the side of the house, gaping and stretching as if for victory. Heard a man talk very loud within——

"'With what a braying noise he muttered,
And thought, no doubt, hell trembled as he uttered.'

"Returned to my lodgings. Evening pleasant; many people came in, and as they poured down the whisky they drowned out the politics. If they should drink less, talk less and read more wouldn't they understand the subject better? Went up street. Going by the court-house heard a stamping like that in a livery stable in fly time. Made inquiry and found there was a dancing-school kept there."

In a similar strain to the foregoing another scribe—probably it was the same one—some five years later (shortly after the close of the war with Great Britain), wrote as follows concerning Wilkes-Barré:

"The noise of the drum and shrill-sounding fife has ceased in our village. The girls and the boys are getting married, deterred no longer by fears of a militia draft or the terrors of a conscription. The old women are anxiously awaiting fresh supplies of their former beverage—bohea—and the young ones are as anxiously awaiting the arrival of Mr. Hollenback's waggon, which is to bring up the new calicoes and bonnets. The grog-bruisers are keeping it up at the taverns. Our market—what shall we say of our market, or how describe its improved appearance! Our market, which during the war was honored only with the presence of dead dogs and cats, fancifully and attractively arranged on the hooks by the mischievous, Latin-chopping urchins of the vicinity, now affords many good things for the hungry stomach. We noticed on the last market-day, with no small emotions of pleasure and secret pride, the appearance on one of the stalls of a very fine, fat, whole hen, being the first within our recollection which has been brought to our market unquartered. The novelty of the spectacle, as might be naturally expected, drew a considerable concourse of people. It affords us much satisfaction to be able to add that the worthy proprietor met with a ready sale of the hen to a company of gentlemen who afterwards raffled for her; but we have not been able to learn who became the fortunate possessor. * * *



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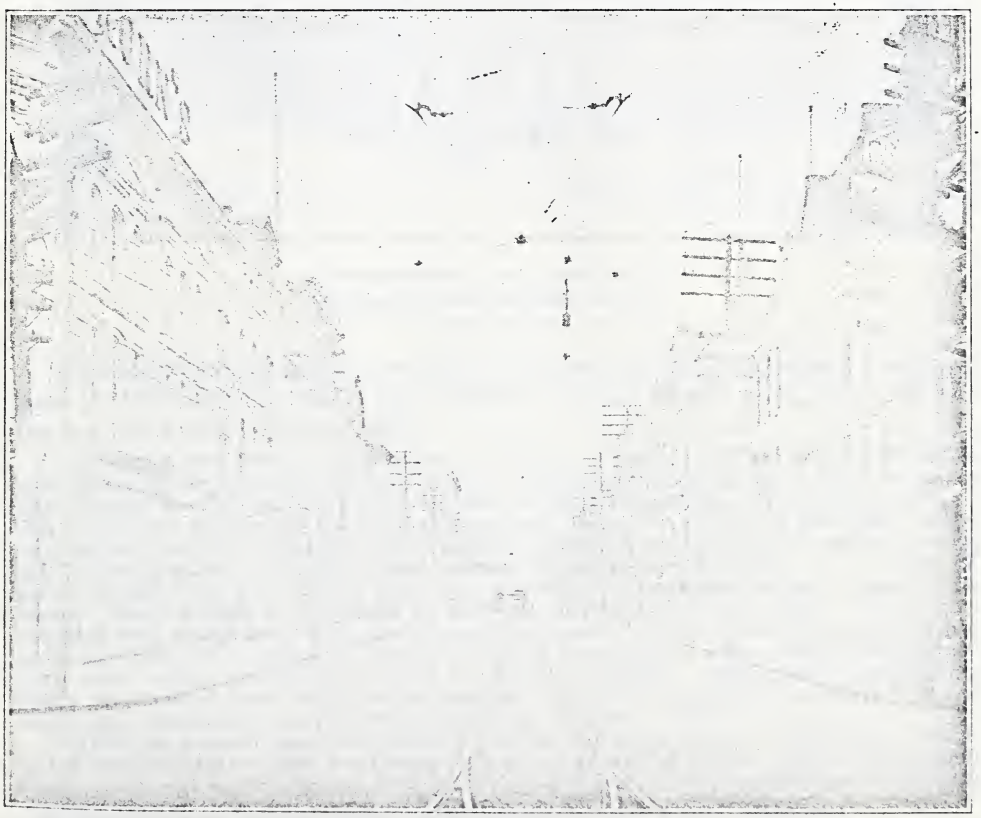
East side of South Main Street, viewed from near the corner of Public Square, in 1858.

"This borough might be rendered very beautiful with very little expense; but beauty is a consideration very little attended to. The streets are not shaded with trees, and the traveler walks exposed to the burning sun. All the public buildings are in the center of the town, where there is a square, the sides of which lie at an angle of 45° with the streets; but it is not planted with trees, neither are the public buildings enclosed with any palings, so that they have a very naked appearance, as if they had been placed there because there was no other place for them. Bank [now River] Street affords a fine prospect of the river, and would form a beautiful walk for the ladies and gentlemen of the town, but boys of all ages are permitted to bathe along the street at all times of the day. This town, after a rain, is the most muddy place I ever saw, and, although there are great quantities of gravel and paving-stones [cobbles] along the river, yet the citizens seem perfectly satisfied to wade through the mud from one year's end to another. * * * The same kind of parsimony prevails here as in most of our little towns in New England. The inhabitants have done without a

NORTH FRANKLIN STREET.



SOUTH MAIN STREET.

bridge for five years—although they have had a law for erecting one all that time—and the reason is simply because they cannot exactly agree upon the spot where it shall stand. Some want it at this street, and some at that, but all want it opposite their own houses." [See page 61, *ante*.]

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HOLLENBACK COAL EXCHANGE BUILDING.
Erected in 1889.

The following paragraphs, written in the year 1876 by a gentleman who was born in Wilkes-Barré about 1813, describe briefly certain conditions and customs which existed here in 1826.

"The writer was born in a log house on the Square, near the present Luzerne House [in 1906 the site of the Bennett Building]. One of his earliest recollections was the funeral of Capt. Samuel Bowman [see page 54, *ante*], who was gored to death by a bull in June, 1818. * * * The funeral was numerously attended, and the Free Masons* were out in full array. There were neither hearse nor carriages, the coffin being borne on the shoulders of stout men to the old burying-ground [on Market Street, between Washington and Canal]. * * * All the goods brought here were hauled across the mountains in Conestoga wagons, drawn by six horses. Some articles were brought up the river in arks and Durham boats. We had no prepared coal, except that which the boys used to prepare. Wood was used for cooking purposes, and coal only in grates for heating. Houses were lighted with tallow dips, and lanterns were made of perforated tin and lighted with candles. There were no pavements. Water was derived from wells; but for washing, rain water was gathered in cisterns or hogsheads, and in seasons of drought was brought from the river. * * *

"While the general aspect of the river remains the same, there is considerable change. At the bend of the river there was then quite a heavy growth of timber. There was a sandy beach, much used for seining fish, shad being very abundant in the Susquehanna. They were

* Captain Bowman was one of the original members of Lodge No. 61, F. & A. M., of this city.

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WEST SIDE OF PUBLIC SQUARE, IN 1897.

worth from six and a-fourth cents to twelve and a-half cents each. On the bank near Major Conyngham's residence [south-west corner of River and South Streets] could be seen the remains of a fort.* Looking up River Street there were two unsightly store-houses on the river bank—Arndt's, in front of E. P. Darling's, and Hollenback's, nearly in front of Mrs. Fuller's. * * * Where the Wyoming Valley Hotel stands was a house occupied by Henry Young, a gun-maker, and a house built by George Chahoon. Two small buildings came next, and then the [George M.] Hollenback building.† Turning up Market Street there were no houses nearer than a little cook-shop, at the corner of the present Faser's Alley. Then came the Sinton mansion (where now stands "Commercial Block") and Sidney Tracy's house. At Sinton's corner [see page 66, *ante*] Jacob and Joseph Sinton carried on business for many years. A field of corn reached to Bowman's corner, and all the west side of Public Square was open. On the east corner of Public Square and South Main Street stood Joseph Slocum's blacksmith shop; next was Slocum's brick residence (built in 1807), now (1876) the *Record of the Times* office. Then came the old jail [on East Market Street near Washington], between which and Canal Street there was a single small house.

"Where Music Hall now stands‡ was an old building, in ruins in 1826. Lewis Worrell had a pottery where now is the Emley property.** The C. E. Wright house was built by Isaac A. Chapman in 1824.†† On the south-east corner of Union and River Streets lived Thomas

* One of the redoubts built by Sullivan's army in 1779.

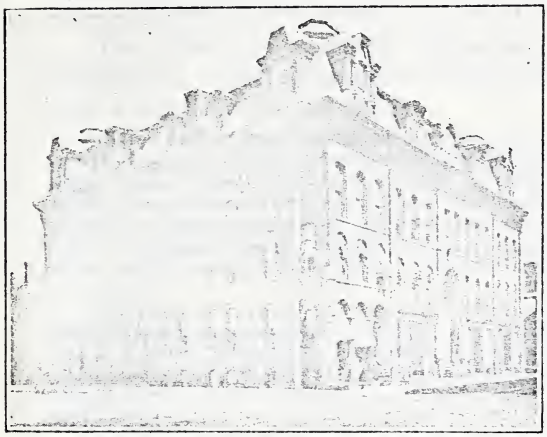
† On its site the present Hollenback Coal Exchange Building was erected in 1889.

‡ At the north-east corner of River and Market Streets. Upon its site the Hotel Sterling was erected in 1897.

** Occupied in part at the present time by the residence of Francis A. Phelps.

†† At what is now No. 63 North River Street, where the modern residence of Mrs. Pauline Long has stood for some years.

Ingham; Mrs. Gorman lived on Union Street, and the next—on the south corner of Union and Franklin—was Mrs. Vernet, wife of a West India merchant. On the north-east corner of Union and Franklin was Mrs. [Peleg] Tracy's boarding-house, and on the north-west corner was the 'old red house,' still standing—but no one seems to know when or by whom it was built. * * * St. Stephen's Episcopal Church was erected in 1822 or '23. It had the first organ in these parts, presented by a Mr. McCoy, and cost $600. The writer was there with the boys and heard the first tune, which was 'Yankee Doodle.'"



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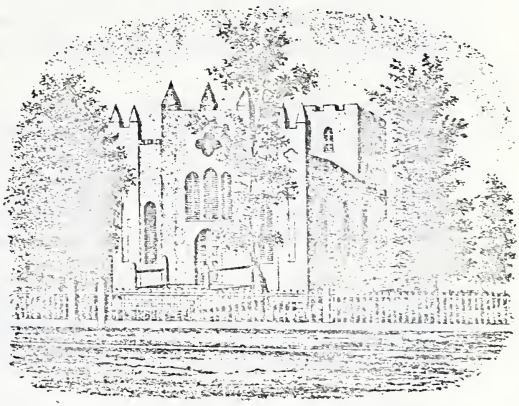
MUSIC HALL.
Erected in 1870; demolished in 1897.



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ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
IN 1850.

In 1830 Prof. Benjamin Silliman of Yale College wrote as follows relative to Wilkes-Barré and Wyoming Valley, shortly after he had made an extended visit here:

"An active and intelligent population fills the country. Their buildings and farms bear witness to their industry and skill. Several villages or clusters of houses give variety to the scene, and Wilkesbarre, a regular and well-built borough having 1,000 or 1,200 inhabitants,* with churches, ministers, academy, able teachers and schools, and with many enlightened, moral and cultivated people, furnishes an agreeable resting-place to the traveler. In a word, splendid and beautiful in the scenery of its mountains, rivers, fields and meadows; rich in the most productive agriculture; possessed by the still surviving veterans and by the descendants of a high-minded race of men; full of the most interesting historical associations, and of scenes of warfare, where the precious blood of fathers, husbands and sons so often moistened their own fields, the valley of Wyoming will always remain one of the most attractive regions to every intelligent and patriotic American."

Col. William L. Stone, a well-known author and editor of New York, made his first visit to Wyoming in 1839, and the next year published his "Poetry and History of Wyoming" (three editions of which were issued up to and including the year 1864). The following brief paragraphs from this work will give an idea of the impressions made upon its author by his observations and experiences here.

"Wyoming is mentioned in almost every book of American history written since the Revolution, as the scene of *the* massacre; but for the most part *that* is the only occurrence spoken of—the only fact that has been rescued from the rich mine of its historic lore. The reader of poetry has probably dreamed of Wyoming as an Elysian field, among the groves of which the fair Gertrude was wont to stray while listening to the music of the birds and gathering wild

* According to the census of 1830 the population of the borough was then 1,201.

flowers; and the superficial reader of everything has regarded it as a place existing somewhere, in which the Indians once tomahawked a number of people.

"The 'Happy Valley,' to which the illustrious author of Rasselas introduces his reader in the opening of that charming fiction, was not much more secluded from the world than is the valley of Wyoming. Situated in the interior of the country, remote from the great thoroughfares of travel, either for business or in the idle chase of pleasure, and walled on every hand by mountains lofty and wild, and over which long and rugged roads must be traveled to reach it, Wyoming is rarely visited, *except from stern necessity*. And yet the imagination of Johnson has not pictured so lovely a spot in the vale of Amhara as Wyoming."

The following concerning Wyoming was written about the year 1845 by a well-known American author of that period, who, a short time previously, had been a sojourner in our valley.

"Broad flats of meadow-land sweep greenly back from the opposite shores of the Susquehanna, bounded a mile or two away by mountain ranges, broken with rocky cliffs and great forest trees. These hills, as you look up and down the stream, take a thousand picturesque forms, sometimes crowding towards the river in rugged cliffs, or consolidated in steep precipices, which cast their shadows half across the valley. Again the mountains fall back with a majestic sweep, leaving many a luxuriant corn-field and breezy grove open to the sight, while pretty farm-houses, filled with prosperous life, are scattered everywhere down the valley.

"Between a curve of the river and a picturesque sweep of the mountains lies the town of Wilkes-Barré, *a gem among villages*, set in a haven of loveliness. * * * Thus Wyoming lies at this day, peacefully cradled in its wild mountains, with the Susquehanna sweeping majestically through its green fields, its slopes clothed with orchards and heavy with grain, bounded by wild precipices and deep ravines in which the great primeval forest trees are still rooted."

The foregoing extracts will give the reader a pretty good idea as to how the borough of Wilkes-Barré appeared to the eyes of outsiders during the first half of its existence. As indicated by the statement of Colonel Stone, previously quoted, Wilkes-Barré continued for many years to be, in some measure, an isolated village, situated as it was "in the interior of the country, remote from the great thoroughfares of travel." The region surrounding it was devoted largely to agriculture, and the surplus products of the farms were marketed principally at Wilkes-Barré. From here they were hauled in sleds or big, canvas-topped wagons over the mountains to Easton; or else shipped in arks down the Susquehanna to Middletown in Dauphin County or to Columbia in Lancaster County, whence they were conveyed across the country to Lancaster and Philadelphia. Easton being the most accessible town, however—especially after the construction of the Easton and Wilkes-Barré Turnpike (see page 62)—was for many years the chief market-town for the merchants of Wilkes-Barré and the principal farmers of Wyoming Valley. It was not until 1834 that the

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RESIDENCE OF COL. JACOB J. DENNIS.

It stood for many years at the corner of South Main Street and Dennis Alley—the site of the present Simon Long Building.

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RESIDENCE AND BANKING-OFFICE OF CHARLES B. DRAKE.

From a photograph taken about 1870. This building stood for some thirty years on South Main Street, at what is now No. 40.

Wyoming Division of the North Branch Canal was completed, by which Wilkes-Barré was connected with the other towns along the Pennsylvania system of canals; and it was a number of years later (1843) before the first railroad tapped Wilkes-Barré. Now eight railroads (in addition to the Wilkes-Barré and Wyoming Valley Traction Company's lines) convey passengers and freight to and from the town, the old turnpike is scarcely more than a reminder of primitive times and methods, while the canal, here and near by—long ago abandoned and its ditch filled up with earth—is only a memory.

By an Act of the Pennsylvania Legislature approved May 4, 1871, the borough of Wilkes-Barré was incorporated into a city. The old town had exceeded its limits, and the territory —a part of the township of Wilkes-Barré—immediately adjoining it on three sides, having been built upon, contained a considerable population. The bounds of the new corporation were established so as to include this contiguous area, as well as to extend to the center of the Susque-

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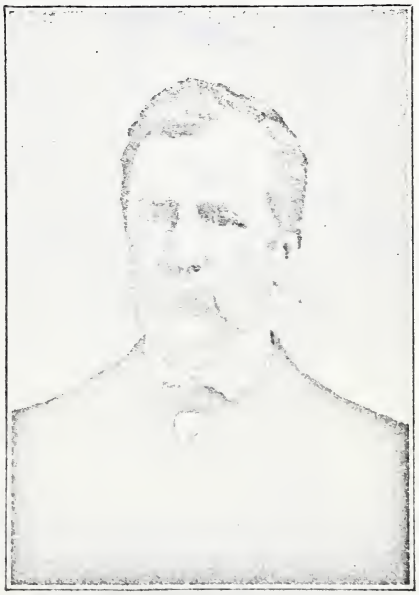
IRA M. KIRKENDALL.
First Mayor of the City of Wilkes-Barré.
June, 1871, to June, 1874.



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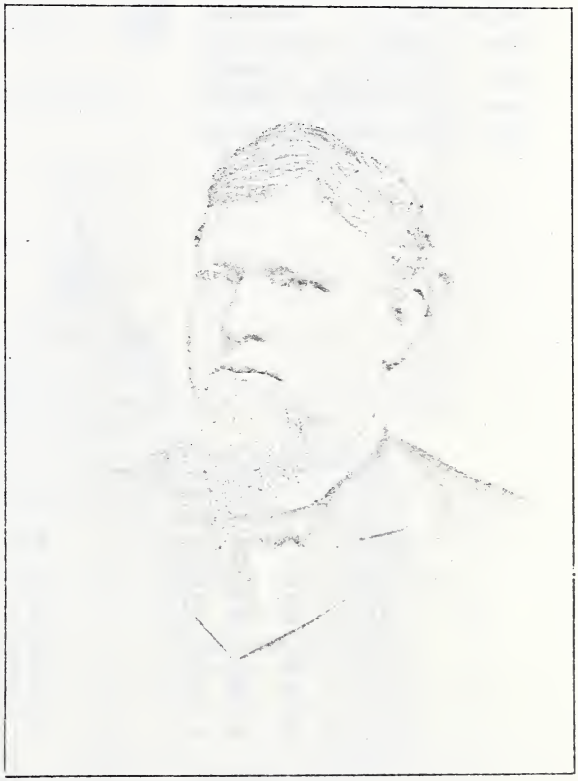
CHARLES PARRISH.
The first President of the City Council.
June, 1871, to April, 1874.

hanna River, and Wilkes-Barré entered upon a new career with an area of 4.14 square miles (exclusive of the river), divided into fifteen wards. (In 1890 a new ward, the Sixteenth, was erected from a portion of the Second Ward, and the city now contains sixteen wards.) The legislative powers of the corporation were vested in a City Council, composed of fifteen members—one from each ward—to be elected by the voters of the respective wards. The first, or charter, election of officers for the new municipality was held June 6, 1871, and the candidates for the office of Mayor were Col. E. B. Harvey (who had been Burgess of the borough in 1865-'66) and Ira M. Kirkendall. The latter was elected by a majority of 974 votes.

By an ordinance passed by the City Council, and approved by the Mayor March 3, 1892, certain boundaries of Wilkes-Barré were changed and extended so as to embrace within the limits of the city the whole bed and the northwesterly bank of the Susquehanna, running the entire length of the city. Therefore, the total area of the city is now 4.858 square miles (3,109.12 acres), exclusive of .896 of a square mile (573.44 acres) within its limits covered by the waters of the Susquehanna. In August, 1898, by an ordinance of the City Council, duly approved, the terms of the general law of the Commonwealth relating to cities of the "third class" were accepted by the city, in lieu of the provisions and privileges in and under its original, special charter; and, *ipso facto,* and the issuing of a new charter by Governor Hastings September 22, 1898, Wilkes-Barré became in all respects a full-fledged city of the "third class." The legislative authority is now confided to a Select Council and a Common Council, each body being composed of sixteen members—one representative from each of the sixteen wards of the city.

In 1870—one year before Wilkes-Barré was erected into a city—the borough had a population of 10,174. According to the census of 1890 the city's population was then 37,718, and by the census of 1900 it was 51,721. Considering the rate of increased during the twenty years preceding 1900, and the conditions which have prevailed here from that year



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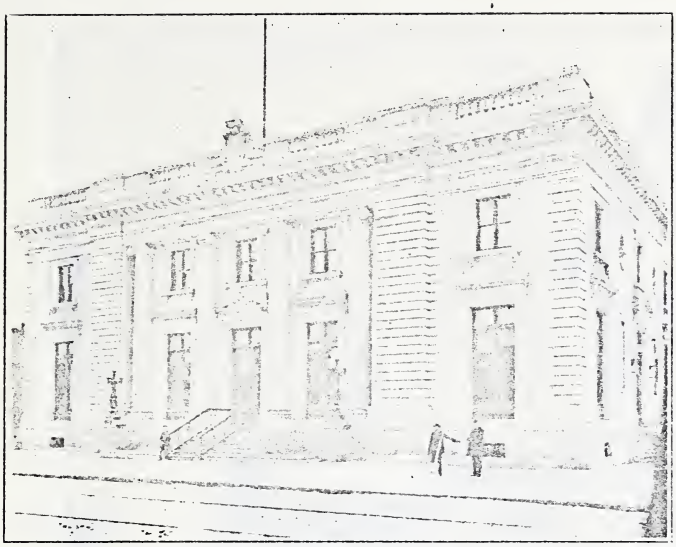
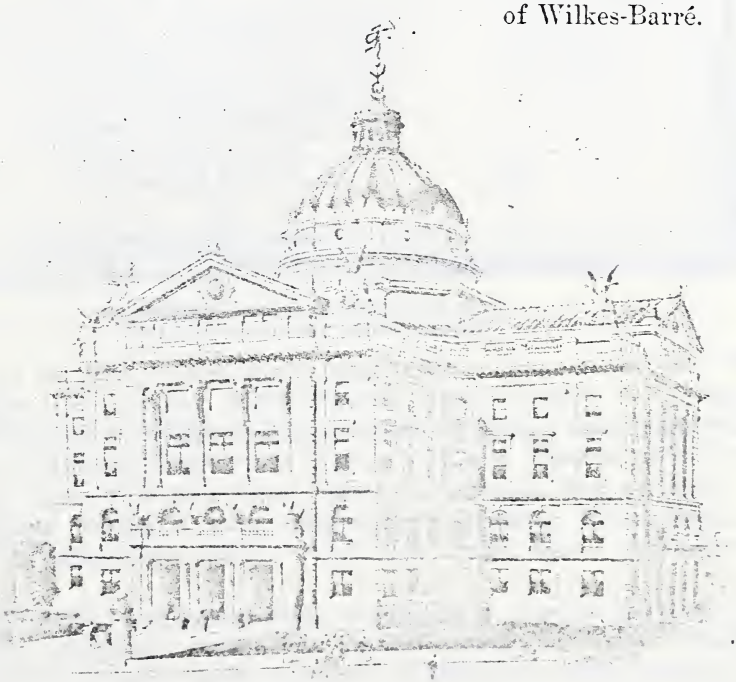
HENRY MARTYN HOYT, LL. D.
(Born June 8, 1830; died December 1, 1892.)

A learned and an able man, an honored citizen of Wilkes-Barré, a brave soldier in the Civil War, and Governor of Pennsylvania from January, 1879, to January, 1883.



UNITED STATES POST OFFICE.
South-west corner of Main and South Streets. Erected in 1892-'03.

until now, there is no reason to doubt that the population of our city at this time is at least 60,000. But, elbowing the city on all its boundaries, are boroughs and hamlets, which, if they should be annexed to the city (as many citizens have for a long time advocated) by the enlarging of its limits to only twice their present extent, would increase very materially the population of Wilkes-Barré. Its area, however, would still be less than that of many a well-known, prosperous city whose population is even now outnumbered by that of Wilkes-Barré.



THE NEW LUZERNE COUNTY COURT HOUSE.
(In process of erection.)

THE PRESENT LUZERNE COUNTY COURT HOUSE.
Its cornerstone was laid August 12, 1856.

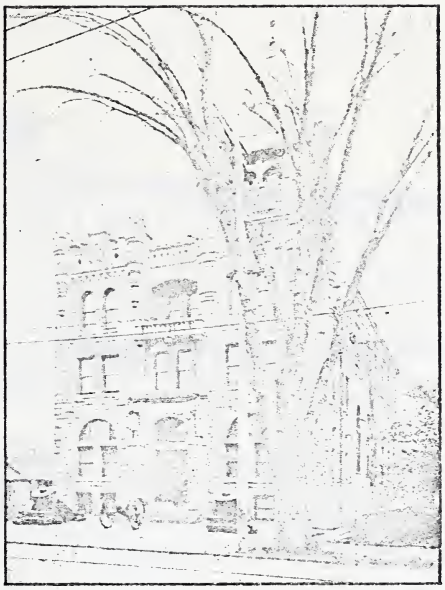
According to the 12th United States Census there were, in the year 1900, within a 9-mile circle having Wilkes-Barré's Public Square as its center, two cities, twenty-three boroughs and many hamlets having a total population—including that of Wilkes-Barré—of 177,887; within a 20-mile circle having the same center there were four cities, thirty-six boroughs and numerous villages and hamlets having a total population—including Wilkes-Barré—of 384,886. At the same time, within a 150-mile circle, was a population of 11,250,000.

Upon a very careful and conservative calculation it is estimated that *at the present time* the population within the 9-mile circle is, in round numbers, 185,000; within the 20-mile circle, upwards of 400,000; within the 150-mile circle, in the neighborhood of 13,000,000—being twice as many people as there were throughout the whole of the United States when Wilkes-Barré was erected into a borough.

WILKES-BARRÉ CITY HALL.

The population of Luzerne County in 1900, according to the 12th Census, was 257,121—showing an increase of 56,000 in ten years, and being about one-twenty-fourth of the population of the entire State of Pennsylvania. The population of the county is now at least 280,000—being considerably larger than that of each of the following States and Territories: Delaware, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Alaska, Arizona, Hawaii and New Mexico.

In the center of Public Square stands the Luzerne County Court House, erected in 1856; but a new and handsome Court House—which, when completed, will have cost in the neighborhood of $1,000,000.—is now being erected at the northern end of the River Common. Not far from its site stands the Luzerne County Prison, an expensive and substantial building of stone and brick erected in 1869. The City Hall, at the north-east corner of Market and



MEMORIAL HALL.

LUZERNE COUNTY PRISON.

FROM OSCAR J. HARVEY'S FORTHCOMING "HISTORY OF WILKES-BARRÉ." COPYRIGHTED.

Celebration by the colored residents of Wilkes-Barré of the ratification of the XVth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.
North Side of Public Square, April 26, 1870.

Washington Streets, is a tasteful and commodious building of brown stone and brick, four and a-half stories in height. Two other buildings which, in a sense, may be classed as "public buildings"—inasmuch as the public is very much interested in them, and as they were largely paid for by public contributions—are the Armory of the 9th Regiment, N. G. P., and Memorial Hall. Both are handsome, substantial and commodious buildings of brick and brown stone; the first-mentioned having been erected in 1887, and the second in 1891 by the efforts of Conyngham Post of the Grand Army of the Republic. The National Government completed in 1904, at an expense of $150,000., at the corner of South Main and South Streets, a large and handsome building for Post Office purposes. (See page 76.)

The schools of Wyoming Valley have for many years been noted for their excellence. (See page 63, *ante*.) In Kingston, one mile from Wilkes-Barré's Public Square, is the widely-and well-known Wyoming Seminary, now in the sixty-third year of its life: while in Wilkes-Barré we have the Harry Hillman Academy and the Wilkes-Barré Institute (formerly the Wilkes-Barré Female Institute)—one a school for boys and the other a school for girls. These three

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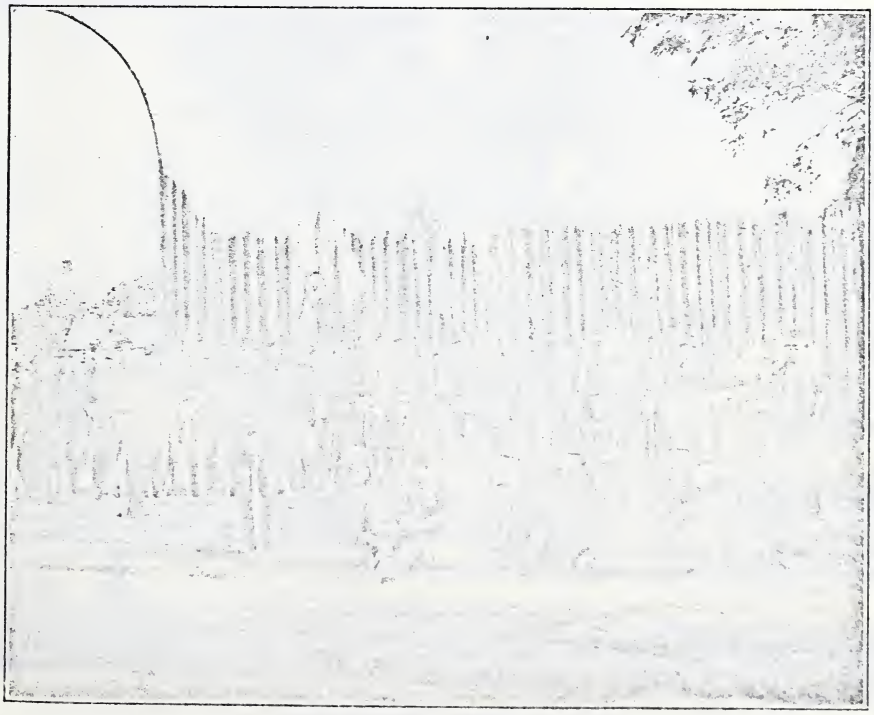
ARMORY OF THE 9TH REGIMENT, N. G. P.



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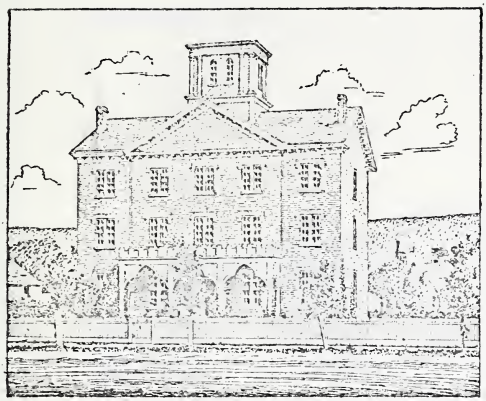
The "Wyoming Artillerists", of the National Guard of Pennsylvania, at Forty Fort, July 3, 1878.

In their rear is seen a part of the stockade which was erected on the site of old Forty Fort on the occasion of the commemorative observance of the centennial anniversary of the battle of Wyoming. The gentlemen seated on the ground in front of the "Artillerists" composed a double-quartet of singers, who took part in the musical exercises at Wyoming Monument on the day above mentioned.

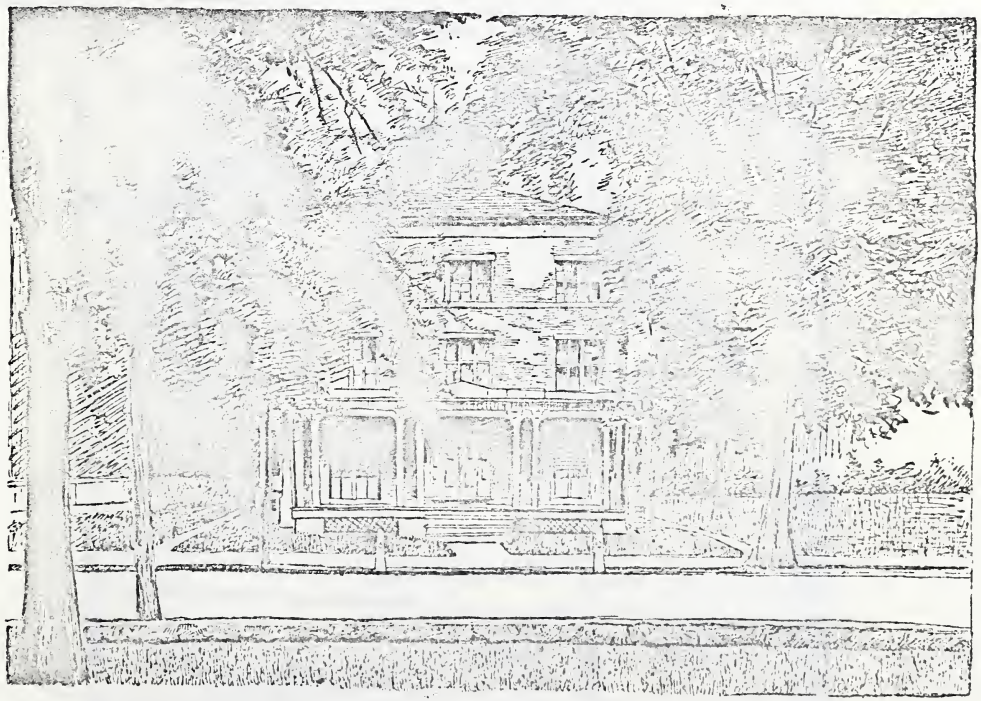


FROM OSCAR J. HARVEY'S FORTHCOMING "HISTORY OF WILKES-BARRÉ." COPYRIGHTED.

WILKES-BARRE FEMALE INSTITUTE.
Erected on South River Street, near South, in 1853-'54; torn down about 1878.

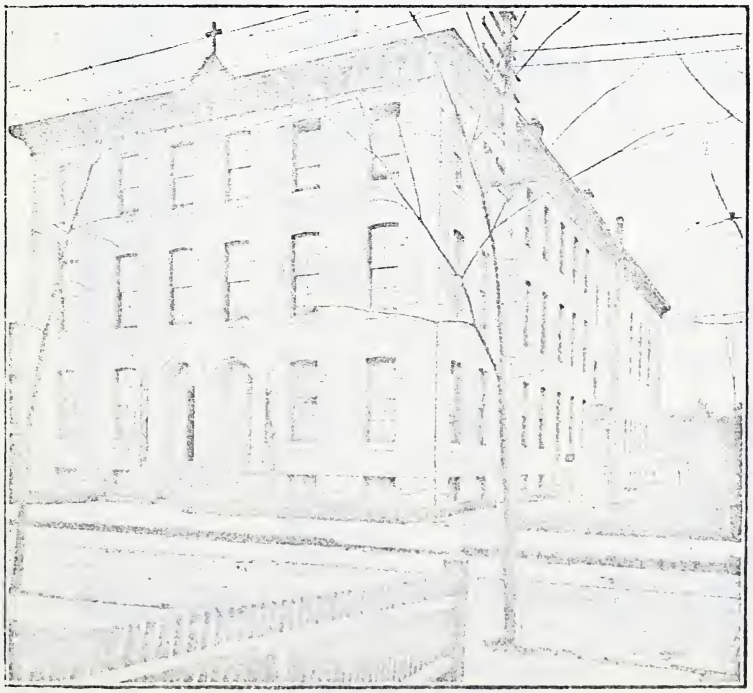
schools are under first-class management, have fine buildings and able teachers, and prepare many boys and girls for entrance to the leading colleges of the country. The Wilkes-Barré Business College is another successful and well-patronized institution of learning which has been established here for a number of years. Mallinckrodt Convent, St. Mary's Convent, and St. Mary's Parochial High School are three very flourishing institutions occupying large and handsome buildings. The two first are for the education of girls and young women, and are conducted, respectively, by the Roman Catholic Sisters of Christian Charity and Sisters of Mercy. The third of this group of schools is for the education of boys and girls belonging to the parish of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church.

The Public, or Common, Schools of Wilkes-Barré have for years been noted for their excellence. Twenty well-built buildings (some of them handsome structures) are now occupied by these schools, and, in managing and instruct-



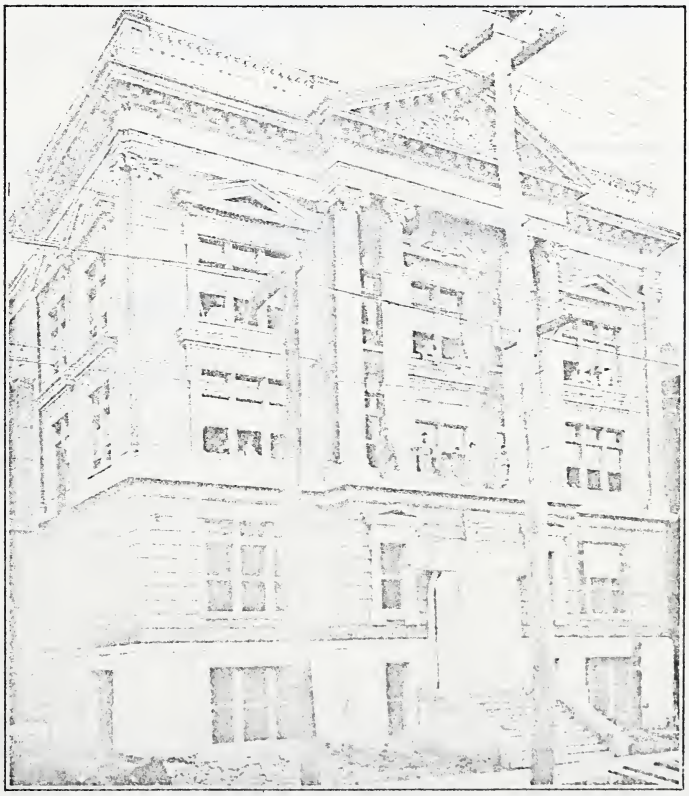
WILKES-BARRÉ INSTITUTE, IN 1895.

MALLINCKRODT CONVENT.



ST. MARY'S CONVENT.

WYOMING SEMINARY, KINGSTON.



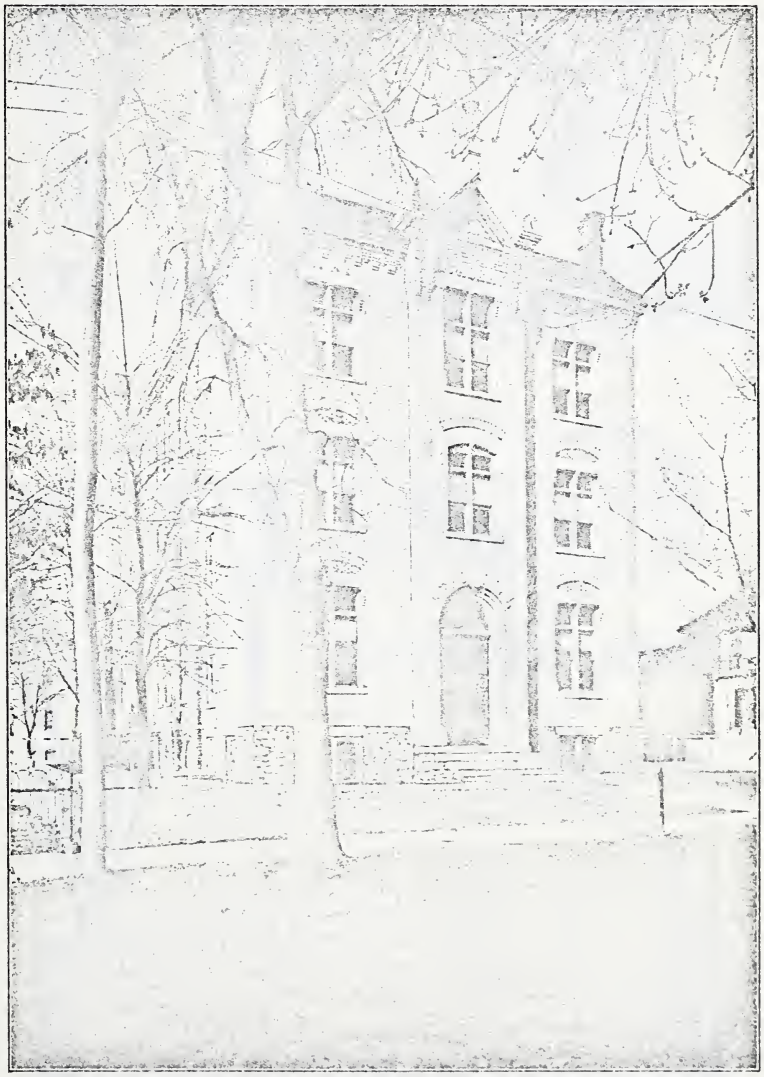
ST. MARY'S PAROCHIAL HIGH SCHOOL.
(Now in course of erection.)

GRANT STREET SCHOOL.

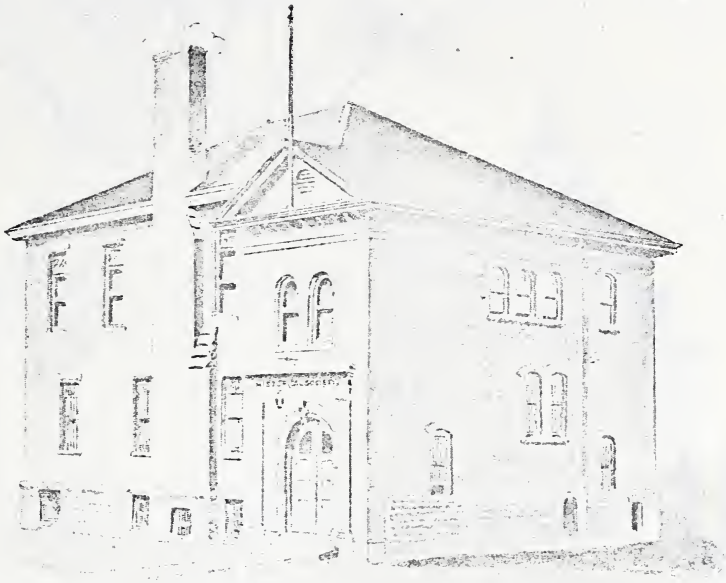
SOUTH MAIN STREET SCHOOL.

ing the 9,000 and more scholars enrolled therein, a City Superintendent, a Supervisor of Music, a Supervisor of Drawing, and 197 teachers are employed.

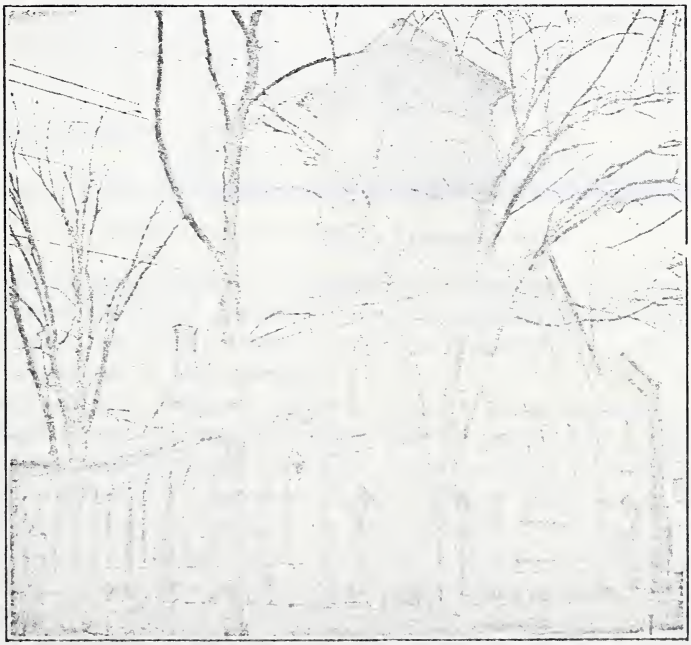
One of the most valuable adjuncts of the educational institutions proper of Wilkes-Barré is the Osterhout Free Library (having an endowment of $350,000.), which, with its well-selected and up-to-date collection of books, numbering about 33,000, has been open to the public since January, 1889. Another important and attractive institution located here is The Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, founded in 1858. With its large and valuable reference



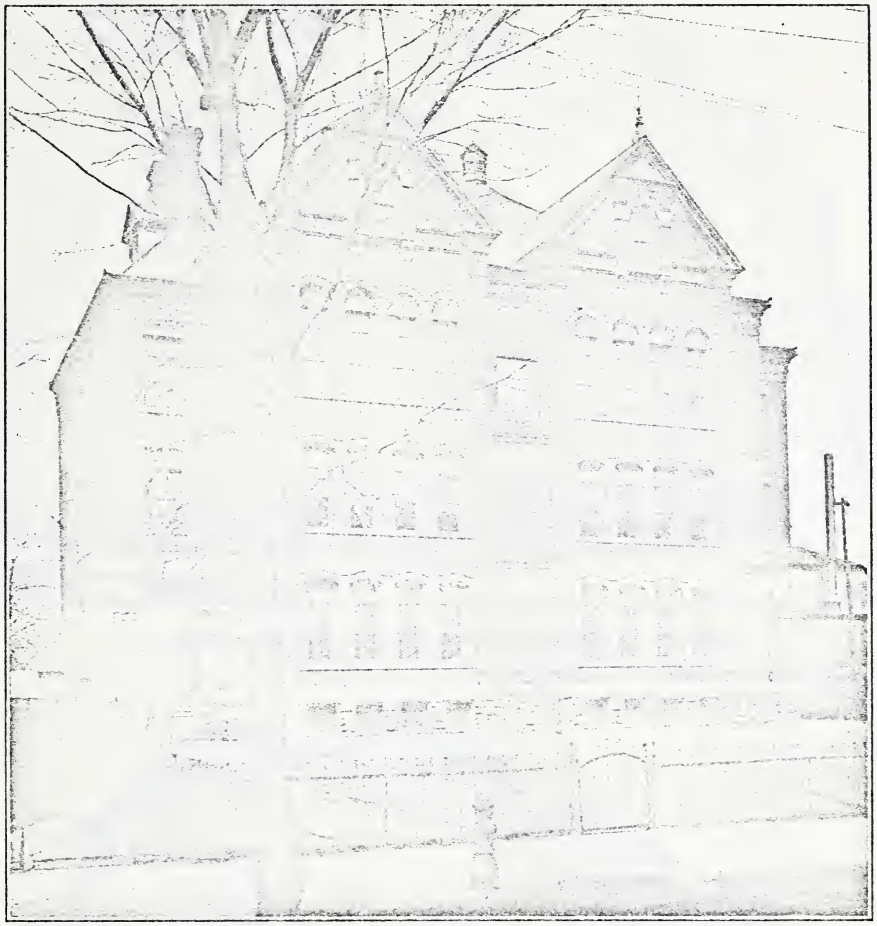
HARRY HILLMAN ACADEMY.



THE WYOMING HISTORICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S BUILDING.



OSTERHOUT FREE LIBRARY.



"CENTRAL" SCHOOL BUILDING, WASHINGTON STREET.

library, its interesting display of pictures, its extensive and rare exhibits of Indian relics and geological specimens, and its palæontological collections—all open to the public, free, every week-day—it is surpassed by very few institutions of a similar character in this country.

There are sixty-six separate Church organizations, representing thirteen different religious sects or denominations, now in active life in Wilkes-Barré, and each of these organizations, save four, owns its place of worship. Several of the church edifices are surpassed in size, beauty and cost by only a few buildings of like character elsewhere in Pennsylvania. In fact, it is conceded by those competent to judge, that, with the exception of Philadelphia and Pittsburg, there is no town in this State which has so many expensive and beautiful houses of worship—including artistic stained-glass windows, high-grade organs, and other attractive and admirable adornments and fittings—as

HIGH SCHOOL, CORNER OF EAST UNION AND WASHINGTON STREETS.

PINE STREET SCHOOL.

Wilkes-Barré. But, what is more excellent and praiseworthy, is the fact that the various religious organizations of the town carry on, in absolute amity and concord, their work for the uplifting of the people of this community to a higher plane of morality and spirituality. During the course of many years several of the Churches have enjoyed the preaching and teaching of ministers of exceptional ability and learning; some of them men of national reputation in their respective generations. One of these was the Rev. Nicholas Murray, D. D., pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, 1829-'33, and another was the Rev. Dr. Arch-

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

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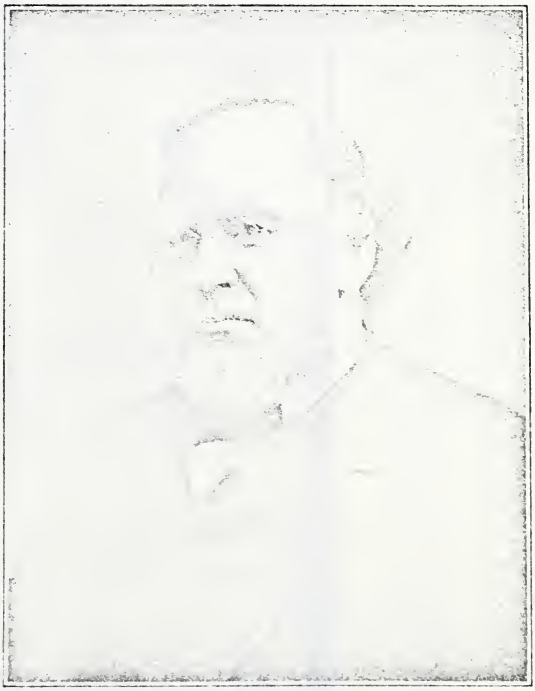
GERMAN REFORMED CHURCH IN 1850.
(South-east corner of Main and South Streets.)

FROM OSCAR J. HARVEY'S FORTHCOMING "HISTORY OF WILKES-BARRÉ." COPYRIGHTED.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN 1850.
(West Northampton Street.)

FROM OSCAR J. HARVEY'S FORTHCOMING "HISTORY OF WILKES-BARRÉ." COPYRIGHTED.

FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN 1850.
(North Franklin Street.)



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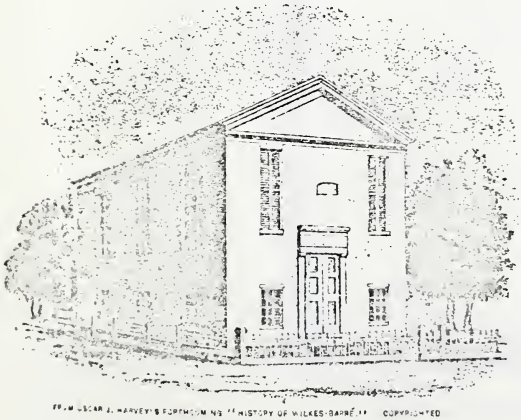
THE REV. ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER HODGE, D. D., LL. D.
Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, 1861-'64.



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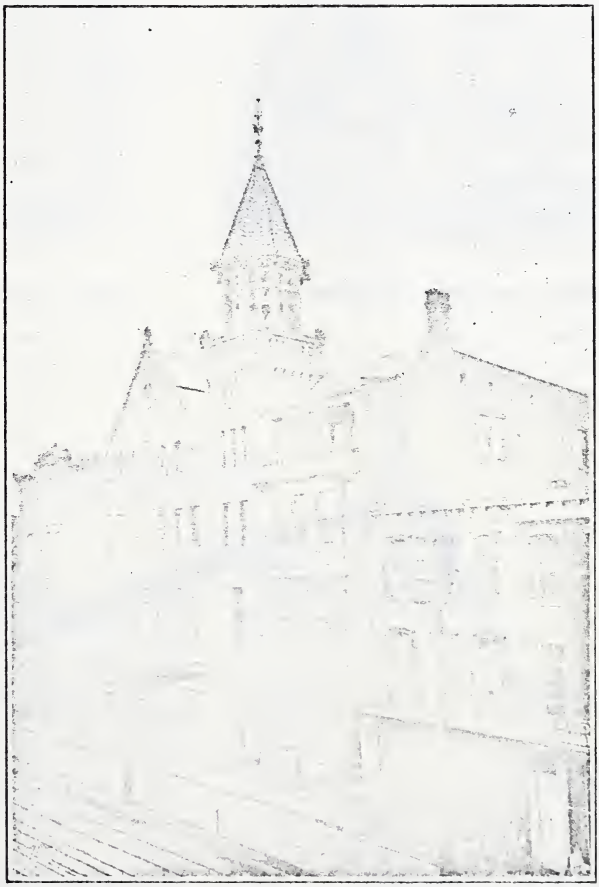
JEWISH SYNAGOGUE IN 1850.
(South Washington Street.)

ibald Alexander Hodge, pastor of the same Church from 1861 till 1864. Dr. Hodge was Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology in Allegheny Seminary, Pennsylvania, from 1864 till 1877, and in 1878 succeeded his father, the Rev. Charles Hodge, D. D., LL. D., in the professorship of Systematic Theology at Princeton Theological Seminary. This position he held until his death, November 11, 1886.

The Young Men's Christian Association and The Young Women's Christian Association are two organizations that are well sustained in this city. Each has a large membership and each owns its home—that of the former being a large and handsome building of modern style and appointments, furnished with library, reading-room, gymnasium and other facilities for mental, moral and physical improvement.



YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION BUILDING.

ST. STEPHEN'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

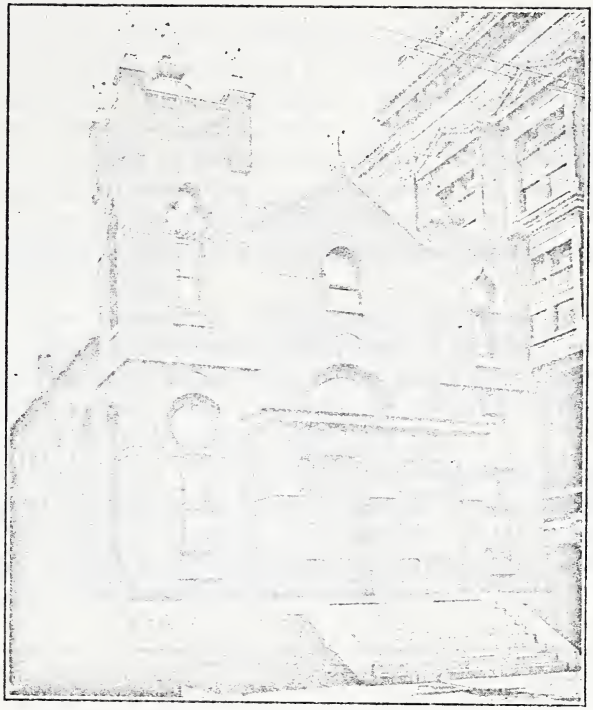
MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.
As it appeared before the cyclone of August, 1890, destroyed the tower. The latter is to be restored.

CENTRAL METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

ST. CLEMENT'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

ST. NICHOLAS (GERMAN) ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.



JEWISH SYNAGOGUE—B'NAI B'RITH.

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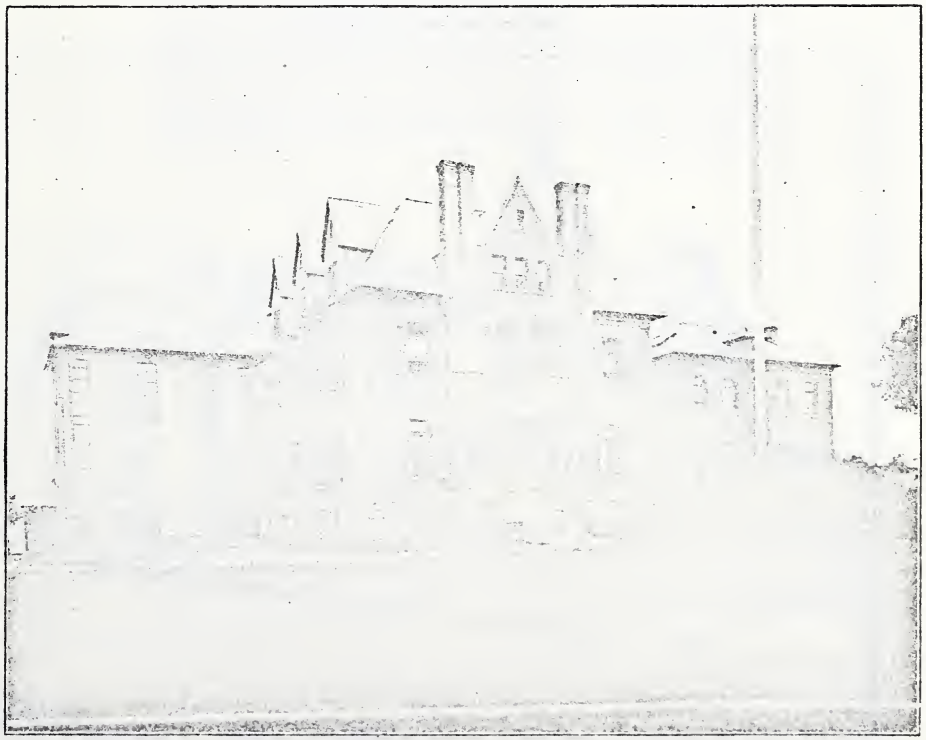
WILKES-BARRÉ CITY HOSPITAL IN 1891.

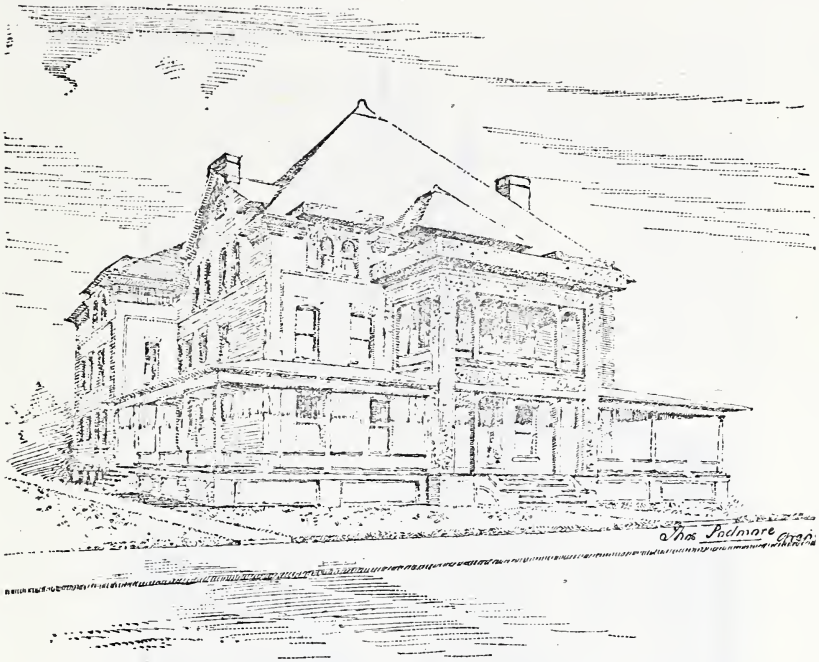
Wilkes-Barré City Hospital, founded in 1872, and Mercy Hospital, founded in 1898, are two public institutions of which the citizens of Wyoming Valley may well feel proud. Each is housed in first-class buildings, and possesses a staff of skilled physicians and surgeons (who give their services without compensation) and a corps of competent nurses. These hospitals receive small annual appropriations from the Commonwealth, but are chiefly supported by endowment funds and yearly contributions given by the people of this community. Hundreds of medical and surgical cases are cared for in each hospital every year, *free of charge.*

The Home for Friendless Children and the Home for Homeless Women are two other splendid benevolent establishments that have existed here, the one since 1862 and the other since 1892, doing much good. They, too, just as the hospitals, are supported almost entirely by voluntary gifts from the public. Each "Home" owns its building, fully paid for.

The Boys' Industrial Association is an organization of working boys—chiefly newsboys, bootblacks, and boys employed at the collieries. This Association, which has been in existence for fourteen years, occupies a three-story brick building, erected by subscriptions from the public, on land owned by the city and leased to the Association for a long term of years. Various industrial

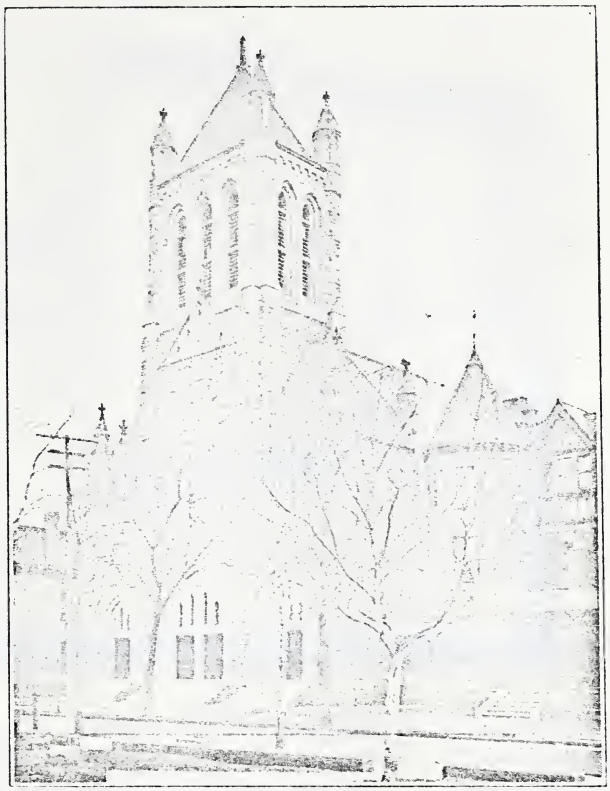


WILKES-BARRÉ CITY HOSPITAL.



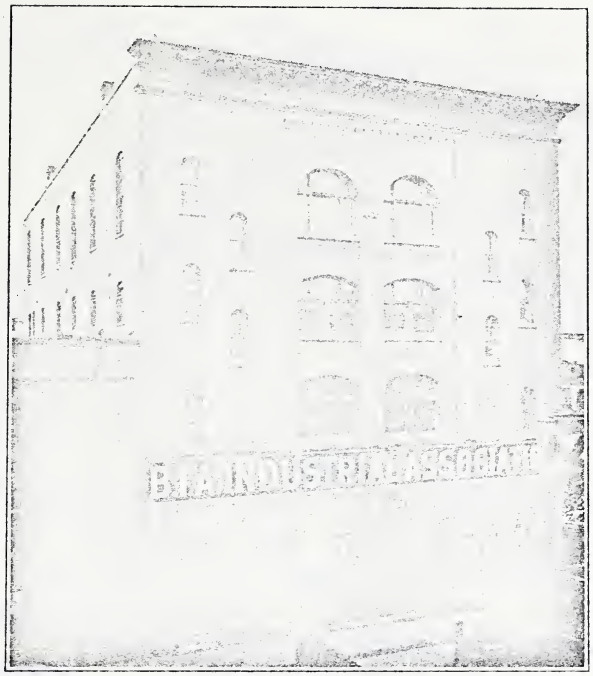
HOME FOR HOMELESS WOMEN.

MERCY HOSPITAL.



FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

HOME FOR FRIENDLESS CHILDREN.



branches of work are carried on here, resulting in much benefit to the large number of boys who are members of the Association. Classes for study, debate, singing, etc., are conducted, and entertainments are frequently given for the improvement and pleasure of the boys.

The United Charities Association of Wilkes-Barré is composed of a large number of philanthropic people whose chief object is to attend in a systematic and effectual manner to the wants of the deserving poor in this community. The Association occupies a three-story building, is supported entirely by voluntary contributions of the public, and, through its authorized agents, accomplishes a vast amount of good. During the past three years the Association has annually expended more than $5,000, in cash, besides distributing thousands of garments and large quantities of food, fuel, etc.

The Central Poor District of Luzerne County—within the bounds of which our city is located—conducts at Retreat, a few miles below Wilkes-Barré, a commodious and comfortably appointed almshouse, a large, productive farm, and a spacious hospital for the insane (erected only a few years ago) which is reputed to be one of the best constructed, best equipped and best managed institutions of that character in the country. The expenses of the Poor District are met by public taxation, at a low annual rate.

Two large, well-appointed theaters—the Nesbitt and the Grand Opera House—are occupied almost continually during amusement seasons by the best theat-

WESTMORELAND CLUB HOUSE.

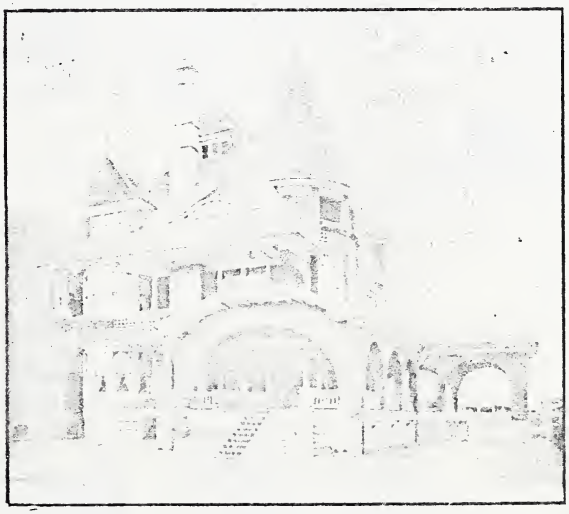
WYOMING VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB HOUSE.

rical and musical companies that travel; while vocal and instrumental concerts by professional and amateur singers and musicians of a high order of merit, as well as various other public entertainments, are frequently given in the 9th Regiment Armory and in the auditorium of the Young Men's Christian Association. These entertainments are all liberally patronized by our people, and Wilkes-Barré is considered by managers of "road" amusement companies as one of the best "show" towns in Pennsylvania.

The Westmoreland Club is a social organization, legally incorporated, numbering several hundred resident and non-resident members. The large house which it owns and occupies was especially built for it, and is considered to be one of the handsomest and most up-to-date club-houses (particularly in furnishings and fittings) in Pennsylvania.

The Wyoming Valley Country Club owns a very attractive club-house, surrounded by extensive grounds, in a picturesque and charming locality a few miles south of Wilkes-Barré, on one of the lines of the W-B. and W. V. Traction Company. This is a flourishing club of large membership—men and women.

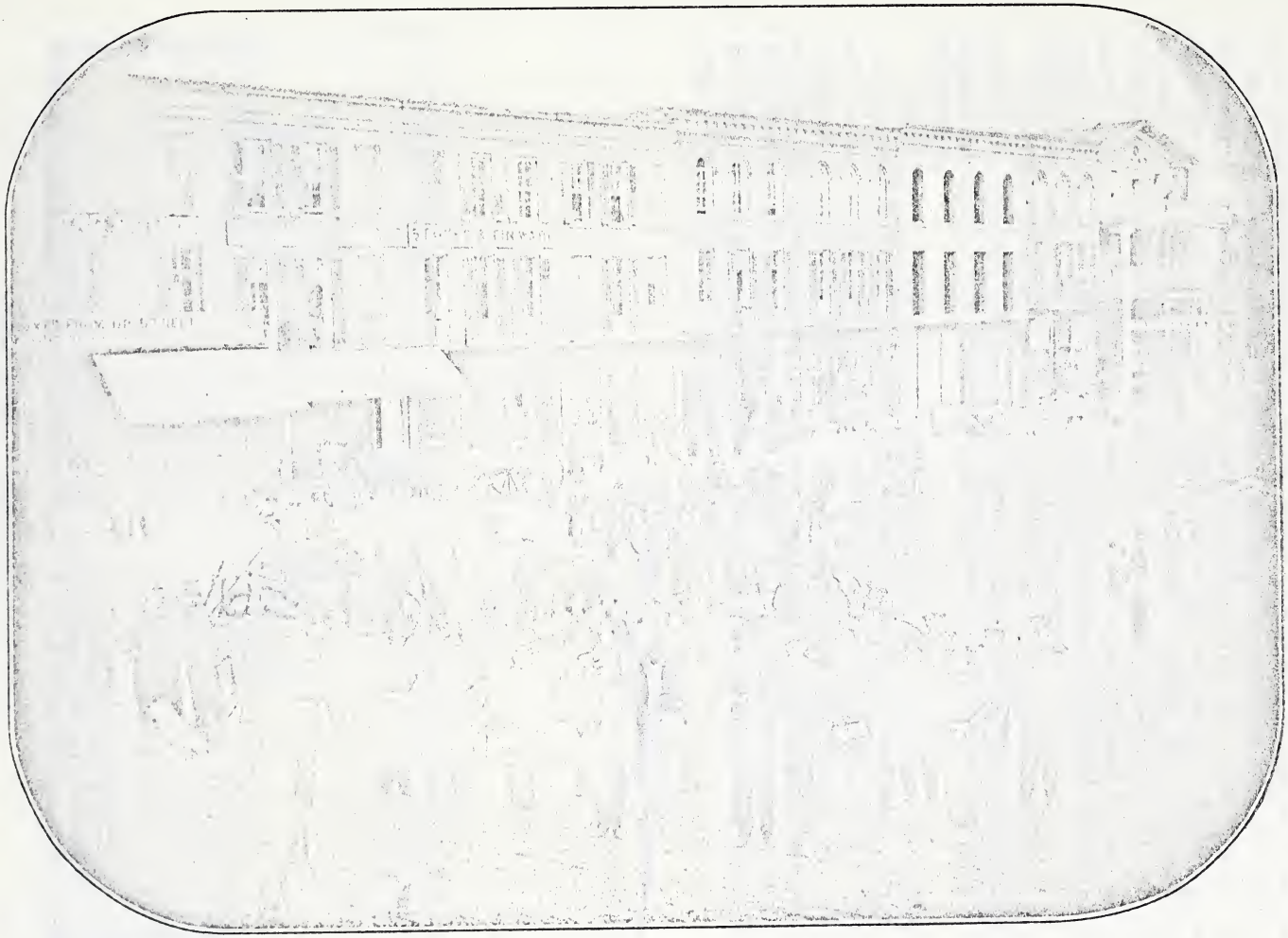
The Commercial Club, Franklin Club, Press Club, and a number of others similar in character are popular and successful, and some of them occupy very



FRANKLIN CLUB HOUSE.

comfortable quarters—the home of the Franklin, in particular, being a handsome building.

Nearly every secret fraternity, beneficial organization and patriotic society of any standing in this country is represented by a lodge or branch in Wilkes-Barré. Each of these appears to flourish, but in particular the lodges of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Order of Elks and the Knights of Columbus and the various bodies having a connection with Free Masonry. Lodges of Free Masons and Odd Fellows have existed here for many years, and their present memberships are large and influential.



FROM OSCAR J. HARVEY'S FORTHCOMING "HISTORY OF WILKES-BARRÉ." COPYRIGHTED.

GOOD WILL FIRE-COMPANY, NO. 2, AND DRUM CORPS, OF THE WILKES-BARRÉ FIRE DEPARTMENT OF FORTY YEARS AGO.
East Side of Public Square, Firemen's Day, June 4, 1866.

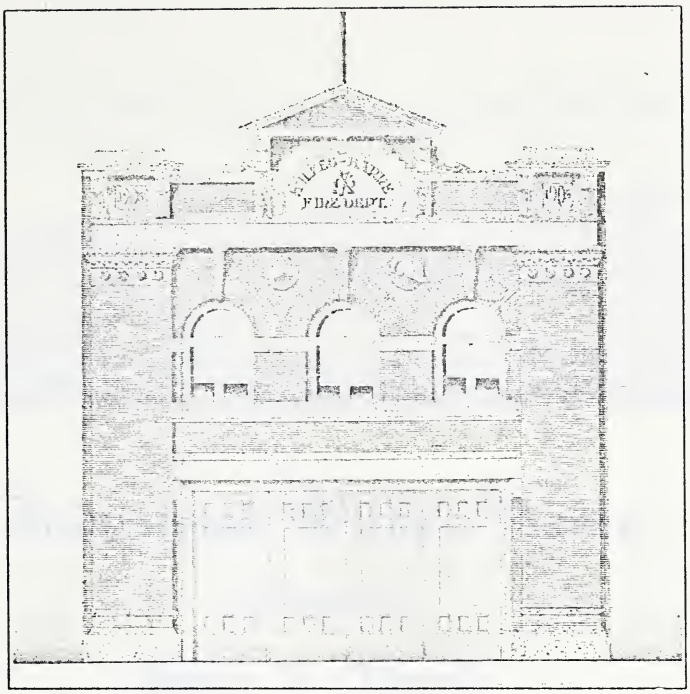
The Fire Department of Wilkes-Barré, one of the most important departments of the municipality, is the pride of our people, and is reputed to be one of the best equipped and most efficient possessed by any town of equal size in the country. Compared with the facilities afforded by the "town pump" of early days, the "bucket brigade" of eighty years ago, and the small hand-engines manned by red-shirted volunteer firemen of a later period, the appliances and methods used for fighting fires in these twentieth century days seem to be almost superhuman. The appropriation made by the City Government for the maintenance of the Fire Department during the fiscal year 1905-'06 amounted to $44,871.50; and for the current year it is $46,196.50.

Wilkes-Barré, as well as Wyoming Valley, is now bountifully supplied with good water, collected into capacious reservoirs from various mountain streams outside the valley, by the Spring Brook Water Supply Company, capitalized at $5,000,000.

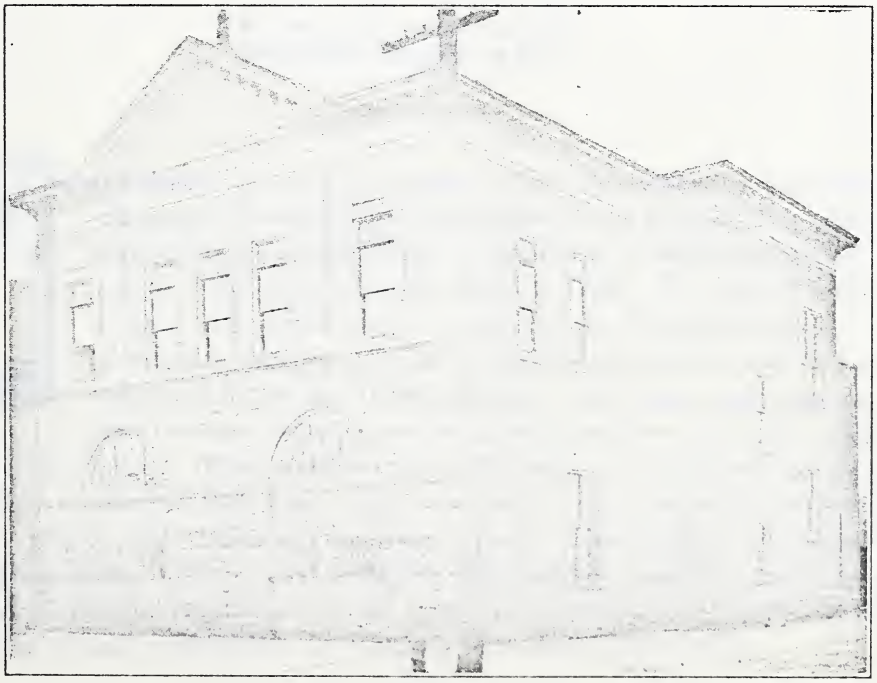
According to a report of the Wilkes-Barré Board of Revision and Appeals recently made to the Councils, the total assessed valuation of real estate, salaries, etc., in the city for the current year is $38,404,069. The estimates and appropriations for operating the various departments of the city (except the public schools) during the current fiscal year, beginning in April, 1906, amount to $383,251.18. Of this amount $218,903.18 will be raised by general taxation; $55,200. will be received from liquor licenses, and the balance of the needed income will be derived from various sources.

Oscar J. Harvey

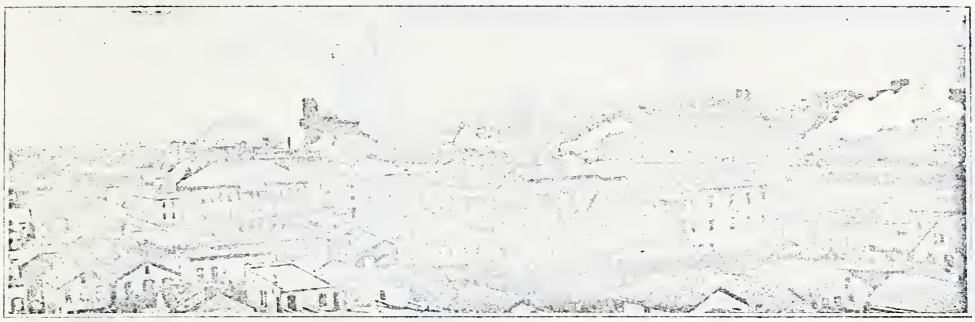
PUBLIC SQUARE, VIEWED FROM THE WEST SIDE.



ENGINE HOUSE NO. 7, WILKES-BARRE FIRE DEPARTMENT.



ENGINE HOUSE NO. 5, WILKES-BARRE FIRE DEPARTMENT.



Industrial Wilkes-Barré.

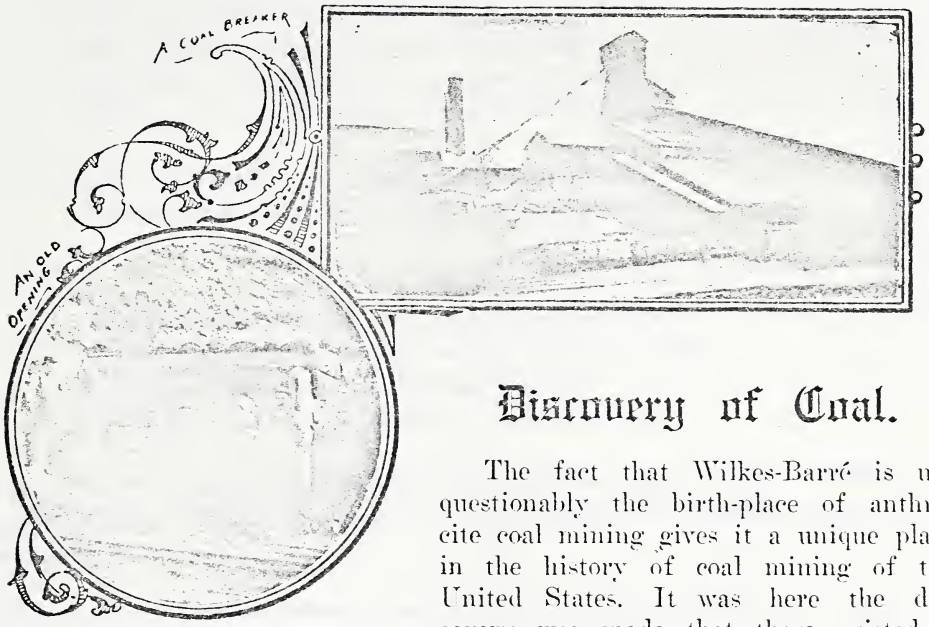
Compiled by

George A. Edwards.

"In every rank, or great, or small,
'Tis industry supports us all."

WILKES-BARRÉ in this year of grace, 1906, is celebrating with much enthusiasm the hundredth anniversary of its creation as a municipality, but its establishment on the banks of the Susquehanna as a town dates farther back to the year 1769. The general history of this, the oldest town of north-eastern Pennsylvania, is one of romantic interest. In this connection it may be said that the history of Wyoming Valley abounds with scenes and tales incident to most trading posts and pioneer settlements of the middle of the 18th century. The beautiful vale of Wyoming has furnished the theme as well as the field of action for many a romancist since Campbell, the Scotch writer, penned his charming descriptive poem, "Gertrude of Wyoming."

Wilkes-Barré, with all its beautiful surroundings, would scarcely have reached its present prominence in the industrial world but for the fact of the discovery of coal—anthracite—in the latter part of the 18th century.



Discovery of Coal.

The fact that Wilkes-Barré is unquestionably the birth-place of anthracite coal mining gives it a unique place in the history of coal mining of the United States. It was here the discovery was made that there existed on this continent such a mineral as anthracite—or stone coal, as it was first called. It was here that the "black stone" was hewn from the mountain side from the outcropping, and was used in blacksmith shops in this neighborhood for upwards of twenty years before its existence was known in any part of Pennsylvania outside the Wyoming Valley. Here anthracite was first used as a fuel for domestic purposes. The story is told that Judge Jesse Fell, in conjunction with his nephew, Edward Fell, set up an iron grate, which he had invented, in a fireplace in his house, on the corner of Washington and Northampton Streets, February 11th, 1808, and made the successful experiment of burning anthracite coal thereon, and found it to answer the purpose of fuel, making a clearer and better fire at less cost than burning wood in the common way. That grate is still in existence. Within the present limits of Wilkes-Barré lay some of the coal lands owned by one of the first companies ever organized in this country to mine and ship anthracite. It is worth noting here that in 1803, five years before the first practical use of anthracite was demonstrated, a poem entitled the "Foresters," was published. This descriptive poem was written by Alexander Wilson, the eminent ornithologist, after he had made a journey on foot from Philadelphia to Niagara Falls, in 1803. His first glimpse—from Prospect Rock—of Wilkes-Barré and our historic vale is described in these words:

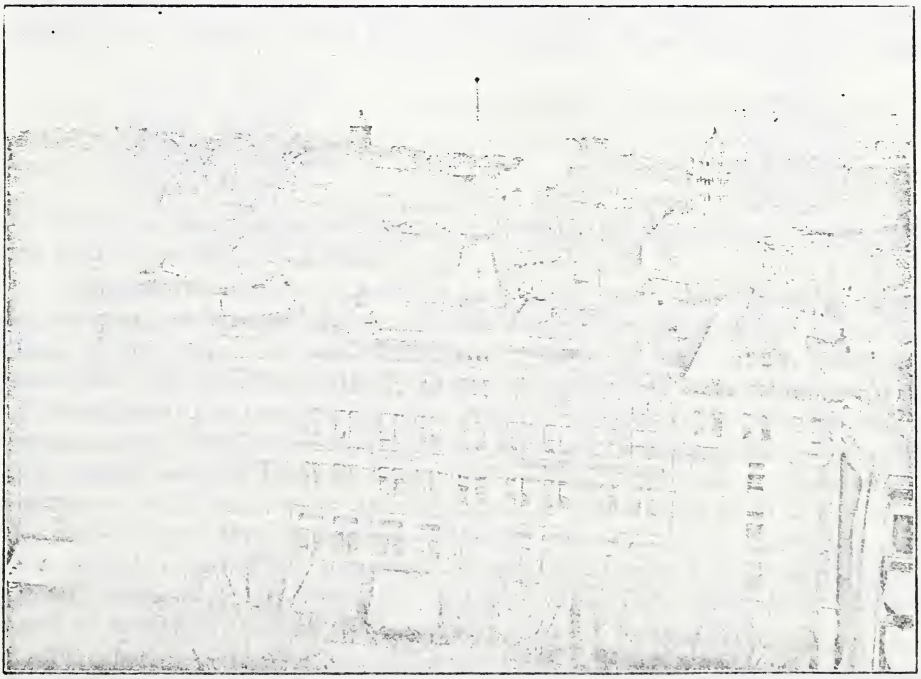
"And now WYOMI opened on our view,
And, far beyond, the Allegheny blue
Immensely stretched, upon the plain below
The painted roofs with gaudy colors glow,
And Susquehanna's glittering stream is seen
Winding its stately pomp, through valleys green.

"Hail charming river! pure transparent flood!
Unstained by noxious swamps or choking mud.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

"Thy pine-brown'd cliff, thy deep romantic vales,
Where wolves now wander, and the panther wails.
In future times (nor distant far the day)
Shall glow with crowded towns and villas gay."

The prophecy contained in the last two lines has been literally fulfilled, demonstrating that Wilson possessed to a large degree the Scottish sense of "second sight."



VIEW WEST FROM COURT HOUSE TOWER.

A Memorable Date.

Industrial Wilkes-Barré may be said to have begun when Judge Fell made his famous experiment of burning anthracite coal, February 11, 1808, and from that date on—slowly at the start and for many years afterwards, but nevertheless with a steady upward trend—the industrial growth of Wilkes-Barré has been sure and substantial. Conservatism and not speculation has guided its people. Avoiding all the methods that now characterize western development, fictitious booms and exaggerated advertising, the people of Wilkes-Barré have, by sheer industry, and close attention to the work that lay before them, built up a city of which, to-day, they may well be proud. Possibly many opportunities have been lost through ultra conservatism, but it is worth recording that the city, ever since its incorporation on the seventeenth of March, 1806, has never once stood still or engaged in marking time, but has continued to march forward until now the pace is rapidly accelerating so that the citizens of to-day are inspired to believe that the dawn of a new and a Greater Wilkes-Barré is at hand.

Extraordinary Growth.

The amount of anthracite mined in the Wyoming coal field from 1808 to 1859 was 10,593,376 tons; while from 1860 to 1865 inclusive 9,209,768 tons were shipped to market. In the year 1903 the total reached 20,572,539 tons and last year, 1905, the tonnage amounted to over 21,405,579 tons, with about 47,500 men employed, as set forth in the reports of the following districts:

	Tons.
Fourth district	5,407,571
Sixth district	4,321,298
Seventh district	5,445,992
Ninth district	6,230,718

This is a remarkable showing, as it exceeds the phenomenal output of 1903, the year after the great strike.

Although the mining of coal has been going on in the Wyoming Valley for upwards of one hundred years, and the output has amounted to scores of millions of tons, there are still thousands of acres of land in the valley wholly underlaid with numerous strata, or veins, of anthracite from which not a pound of the mineral has been taken, thus insuring prosperity for the city for many years to come. Besides all this there are scattered throughout the valley scores of culm banks, many of them veritable hills—which have grown up from steady accretions of condemned coal, coal screenings and coal dust or dirt, as well as of the *finest of coal thrown aside* in the early years of mining operations. From this culm, by mechanical processes, thousands of tons of good marketable fuel are now being daily produced, thus utilizing what for a generation were looked upon as unsightly, useless and valueless piles of mine-refuse.

The early workings of the mines were naturally crude and wasteful because the pioneers of the coal industry little dreamed of selling what is known to-day

as the smallest size of coal, Buckwheat, No. 2, slightly larger than actual dust. Only the broken coal—that is the lump coal—was first sold, but step by step coal crushing and coal screening was introduced, the coal breakers growing slowly from the one-story frame structures to the modern mammoth breakers now towering skyward.

The anthracite was first dug out of the mountain sides by means of drifts or levels, loaded into rude cars and afterwards dumped on to platforms, and thence was shipped in boats or wagons. There was no tipple or screen used, as only one size of coal—the lump—was sold, the smaller coal being left behind in the mine. Later on as coal rose in value owing to the increased demand, the smaller sizes were broken by hand with a hammer and dropped into primitive cast iron screens. After a while the first breaker with a new method of screening was introduced, about the time of the war in the sixties, and from it sprung the present ingenious methods for crushing, cleaning and separating coal, thereby utilizing nearly every pound of coal passing through the rolls. Indeed, there is no more interesting sight for visitors to this section than to pass through one of these gigantic breakers now dotting the surface of the Wyoming Valley and witnessing the process in vogue.

Anthracite as a Cheap Fuel.

Those who have given the subject attention can have no conception of how large a figure fuel cuts in the cost of manufacture where steam power is used or furnace work requisite. While it is true bituminous coal can be had at lower figures than anthracite, the consumption per horse power is much greater when the expenses for extra stokage, cartage, etc., are considered.

If the figures of the Rochester Chamber of Commerce are correct, 80c buckwheat coal, combined with the Producer Gas System, is cheaper than water power. From the report of the Chamber for 1889 the following extract is made: "It appeared that great mills in Lowell, Lawrence and many of the New England cities used, say 3,000 horse power, costing about $35,000 per year, while the same power here would cost $105,000." In Wilkes-Barré the fuel for 3,000 horse power would cost $16,080, or with Producer Gas, $8,040. There is no room, in the face of all these facts and figures, for disputing the position we take, that we have the cheapest fuel in the world (without reference to our culm) and that, with the practically inexhaustible supply thereof, with our six great transportation lines, our nominal city taxes and the beauty of our surroundings, and the salubrity of the climate, we have the best place for manufactures in America.

Coal's First Boom.

A well known citizen, writing of the city in the forties, has this to say of the early development of the coal business:

"And about this time a small frame foundry was located on North Main Street, and owned by Jonathan Moore, who made ploughs mostly. He sold out to the firm of Baird & McCullough.

MALTBY BREAKER, LEHIGH VALLEY COAL CO.

"The coal business was beginning to pick up, the price was one dollar per ton and a breaker was being erected about the site of Lee's planing mill, a little beyond. It was all a swampy place and the canal and basins took up all that space running beyond the present railroads. The boats running between Wilkes-Barre and Baltimore were all loaded there and the shipping superintended by Alex. Gray.

"About this time, 1852, David Levi, of Plymouth, was doing a large coal shipping business by boats. I built for him the first coal chutes at the mines, and we supplied all the iron grating, etc., from the Baird & McCullough foundry, at which I was then employed."

Early Handicap.

For several decades Wilkes-Barré was handicapped by the fact that it lay within the bosom of high hills and its only access to the markets was by means of arks sailing down the river to Dauphin County, or by narrow roads over the tops of the surrounding mountains. The Easton and Wilkes-Barré Turnpike—built in the years between 1802-08—was the first available road to Easton, which was for many years the chief market town for the merchants and farmers of the Wyoming Valley. This road starts from the river bank at the foot of Northampton Street and runs right through to Easton and for years it was popularly known as the longest "street" in the Commonwealth.

The North Branch Canal.

The first important opportunity for shipping mine product came with the advent of the North Branch Canal in 1834, by means of which Wilkes-Barré was connected with other towns along the Pennsylvania System of Canals.

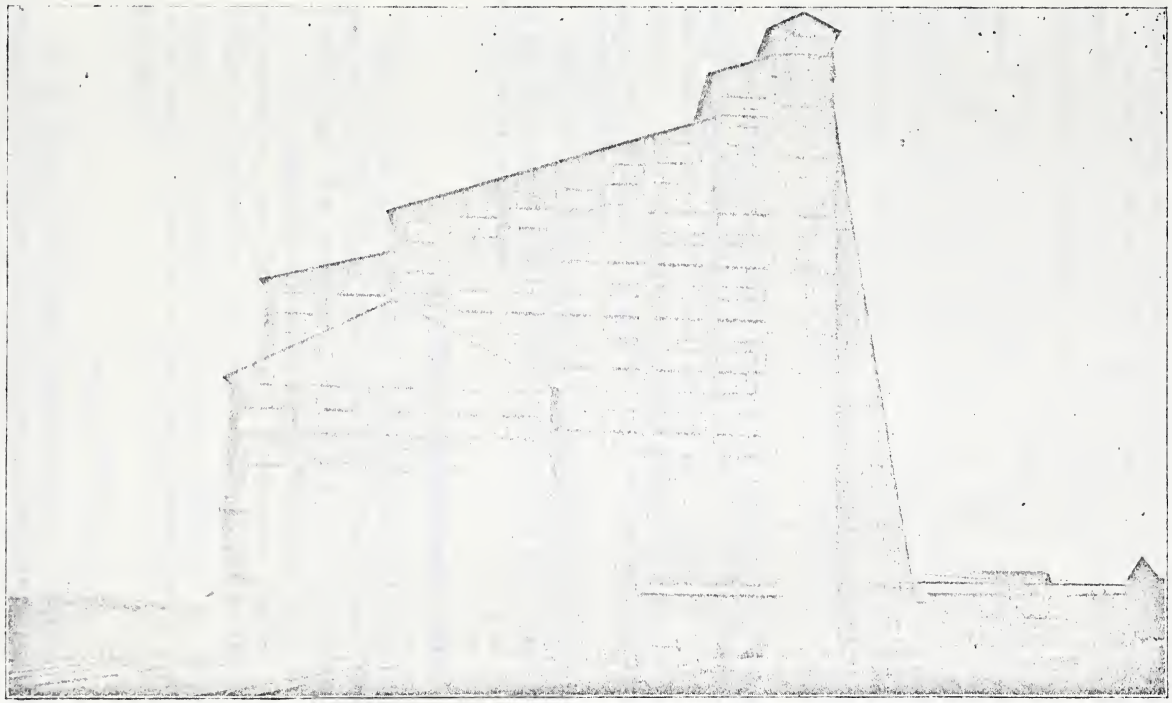
FLASH-LIGHT VIEW OF A MINER'S CHAMBER.

The canal entered the city limits from the north by means of a lock and basin at Mill Creek, where coal was loaded, and the first city basin was located near where the new Court House is now being erected and passed along the route of the present Laurel Line to Canal Street. Near Washington and Canal Streets was another basin and the Bennett warehouse; next came a basin and a warehouse owned by George Hollenback at East Market Street; then there came a timber basin and lower down Parrish's warehouse and basin near South Street. The canal is now filled in and along the line of the old bed there is a large sewer controlled by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

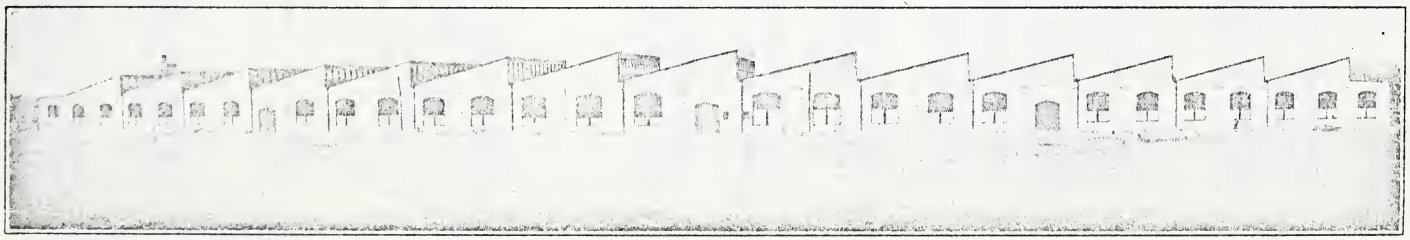
The canal system rendered a fairly good service for about twenty-five years, but the construction of the first railroad in 1843 soon rendered the old system obsolete and it was finally abandoned when the Lehigh Valley Railroad bought up the state rights. It is now only a memory.

The first railroad started from a point located near W. L. Conyngham's home, facing the river common, running thence to Ashley—the cars being drawn by horses—connecting with the Ashley planes, from the top of which locomotives took the cars to White Haven. Passengers, freight and mails were intermixed and the journey was both tedious and dangerous.

It was not until 1866-7 that the Lehigh Valley R. R. and Central R. R. of New Jersey made their appearance and the old road to Ashley was quickly dispensed with. It was in 1856 that the Bloomsburg branch of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western was completed, connecting this section of the world with the Pennsylvania road at Northumberland. These facilities quickly added to the importance of Wilkes-Barré, and from that time on her growth has had one unbroken, steady success. Now nine railroads connect with the city, conveying passengers and exchanging freight—four of them trunk lines.



MAXWELL BREAKER, L. & W-B. COAL CO.



MATHESON MOTOR-CAR WORKS.

Manufacturing Establishments.

In 1900, as shown by the Twelfth Census, there were in Wilkes-Barré 438 manufacturing and mechanical industries with $10,501,537 of invested capital —considerably added to during the last six years—over 6,000 wage earners being the average employed in these industries, and the value of the yearly products thereof amounting to over $11,000,000.

Among the 133 cities and boroughs of the state in 1900 Wilkes-Barré ranked *sixteenth* with respect to capital invested in mechanical industries, and *twentieth* with respect to the value of the products of those industries. For the years intervening between the Eleventh and Twelfth censuses, Wilkes-Barré showed an increase of 62.2 per cent in the number of its industrial establishments—only four towns in the State surpassing this percentage; while in the amount of its capital invested it showed an increase of 87.6 per cent.—this percentage being exceeded by only eight other towns in the State.

The citizens can justly point with pride to the fact that many of Wilkes-Barré's manufacturing and mechanical industries are of considerable importance and some of them are among the *largest of their kind in the country.* Many of these establishments were begun in a small way and have been enlarged and built up in a gradual and, to the bulk of the citizens, in an almost imperceptible way.

This story of Wilkes-Barré's industrial growth is not intended to be a history of all the various plants in the city and we have only space to refer to a few of the most important.

The First Manufacturing Plant.

One of the first attempts at manufacturing merchant iron, etc., in close proximity to the mines, was started near the present Stanton breaker. It was a rolling mill for puddling and making bar iron during the early forties. It was a very creditable effort but owing to the fact that ore was not found in paying quantities, and the absence of lime stone, together with the difficulties attending transportation, the works were removed to Danville and have since developed into an important industry. The name of Rolling Mill still attaches to the locality where the works were situated, for it is now known as "Rolling Mill Hill."

Laning & Marshall.

J. R. Perry, the pioneer manufacturer of pianos, in writing his reminiscenses for the *Times,* has this to say of industries in Wilkes-Barré fifty years ago:

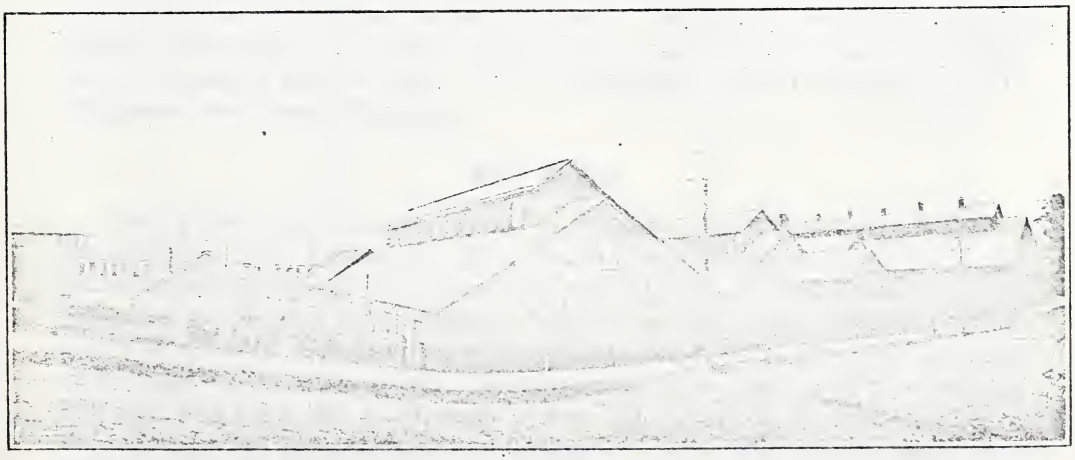
"As to manufactures they were very limited. On the west side of the Public Square was a large foundry and machine shops owned and operated by Mr. Laning, and, of course, all the buildings around the Square were old-fashioned

frames. Mr. Laning soon after built the large and commodious shops on Canal Street and they were conducted under the firm name of Laning & Marshall. What was peculiar about that copartnership was that it was formed with the express purpose of building steam canal packet boats to ply upon the North Branch Canal, then under construction, to the State of New York.

"I saw the plans made, and had them explained by Mr. Marshall himself, but owing to the fact that the engineers did careless work on the canal, so that on some of the levels the water was supposed to run up hill, and when the water persisted as usual, in running down hill, and, also, from the fact that the State of Pennsylvania had sold some of the State canals, the whole enterprise was a failure and was abandoned. Mr. Chas. Parrish then purchased it for himself and the Lehigh Valley Railroad Co., which was later constructed, and located its lines upon the towing path, as the Pennsylvania Railroad had located upon the Philadelphia and Pittsburg lines of canal. When the Laning foundry was removed to Canal Street B. F. Wells constructed a packet boat or two in the old foundry, and when completed he hauled them from the place up Main Street to the Hillard block and slid them into the canal, and as the hotel was being torn down to rebuild the Luzerne House, he went to boating between Pittston and Northumberland."

Vulcan Iron Works.

In 1849, a few years after the railroad to Ashley was completed, there was started in South Wilkes-Barré, by Richard Jones, a modest plant for the manufacture of engines and mining machinery, and was conducted by him until 1867, when it was organized and incorporated under the name of the Vulcan Iron Works. This plant is now one of the city's foremost industries and employs nearly 1,000 men. Mining machinery for all parts of the world has been its specialty, boilers, light locomotives and its latest addition has been to engage in the manufacture of the larger kind of locomotives.



VULCAN IRON WORKS.

In 1887 the Vulcan Works leased and has since bought and greatly improved the plant of the Wyoming Valley Mfg. Co., on Hazle street, and the plant of the Pittston Engine and Machine Co., of West Pittston. In 1894 the plant of Carter and Allen, at Tamaqua, was purchased. The Vulcan Iron Works now own four distinct and separate plants. In April, 1906, an important addition to the Wilkes-Barré plant was ordered and it is expected that 300 more men will soon be employed.

Hazard Manufacturing Company.

In the latter part of the century Erskine Hazard established at the Falls of Schuylkill the first mill for the manufacture of iron wire in the United States. In 1848 his son, Fisher Hazard, established at Mauch Chunk a factory for the making of wire rope.

The Hazard Manufacturing Company was operated by the original owner until 1868 when, largely through the instrumentality of the late Charles Parrish, the plant was purchased by a stock company and removed from Mauch Chunk to Wilkes-Barré, where the concern was re-organized under the name of Hazard Manufacturing Company.

The Company began its operations in a small way in two brick buildings near the corner of Fell and Ross Streets. To-day it is the second largest establishment of its kind in the United States. The works now cover five acres of ground and employ about 700 people. The products are bare and insulated copper wire of all descriptions, iron and steel wire rope, galvanized and otherwise, for mines, cables, railways, elevators, ferries, ships' rigging, etc.

The capital stock is about $1,000,000, with an annual output of $1,500,000, and is steadily increasing, finding markets all over the globe. It has about thirty-five branch offices and agencies throughout the United States and has representatives all over the industrial world. Its plant is one of the sights of the city, consisting of a number of buildings, some of them four stories high, and substantially built of brick. W. L. Conyngham is the President and J. C. Bridgman the General Manager.

Axle Works.

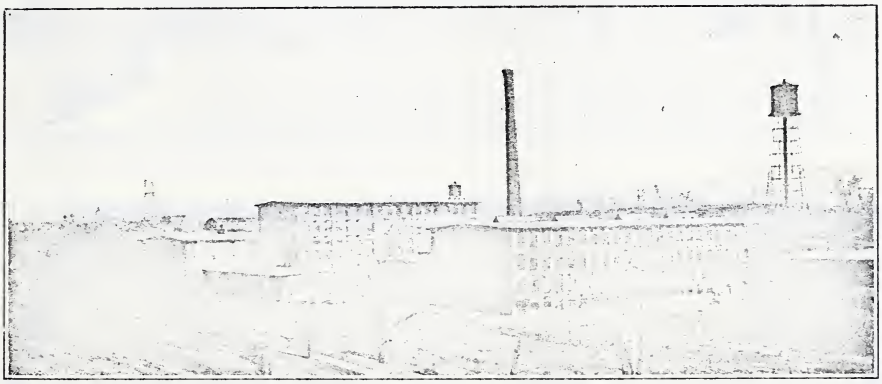
Among the largest concerns in the world located in Wilkes-Barré is that of the Sheldon Axle Company. This concern is engaged exclusively in the manufacture of carriage and wagon axles and springs. This industry was first organized by Charles L. Sheldon in Auburn, in 1865, but in 1886 the business was removed to Wilkes-Barre and re-organized under the corporate title of the Sheldon Axle Company. When working at its full capacity it employs 700 men and turns out 2,000 axles a day. It has a wagon spring annex of the most modern construction and equipment. The plant covers more than fourteen acres of ground.

SHELDON AXLE WORKS.

WORKS OF THE HAZARD MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

Wilkes-Barré Lace Manufacturing Co.

The production of Nottingham lace curtains is now one of the most important industries of the United States, and Wilkes-Barré is rapidly becoming the center for this industry. The first regular organized company for the manufacture of Nottingham curtains was incorporated on April 1, 1885, as the Wilkes-Barré Lace Manufacturing Company. Its plant is located on Courtright Avenue and Darling Street and like others of the city's substantial industries, was begun in a modest way, with but two machines. Now it has a weaving hall with sixty-two machines installed. It is the only lace curtain plant in the world completely equipped to transform through a continuous process the raw cotton into a perfected curtain ready for use. The plant covers nine acres of ground and the company has recently purchased an adjoining tract for the erection of additional buildings. The immensity of the enterprise may be gathered from the fact that it produces 55,000 pairs of lace curtains every week. The products of the Wilkes-Barré Lace Manufacturing Co. being low in price and of undisputed quality, have placed within reach of

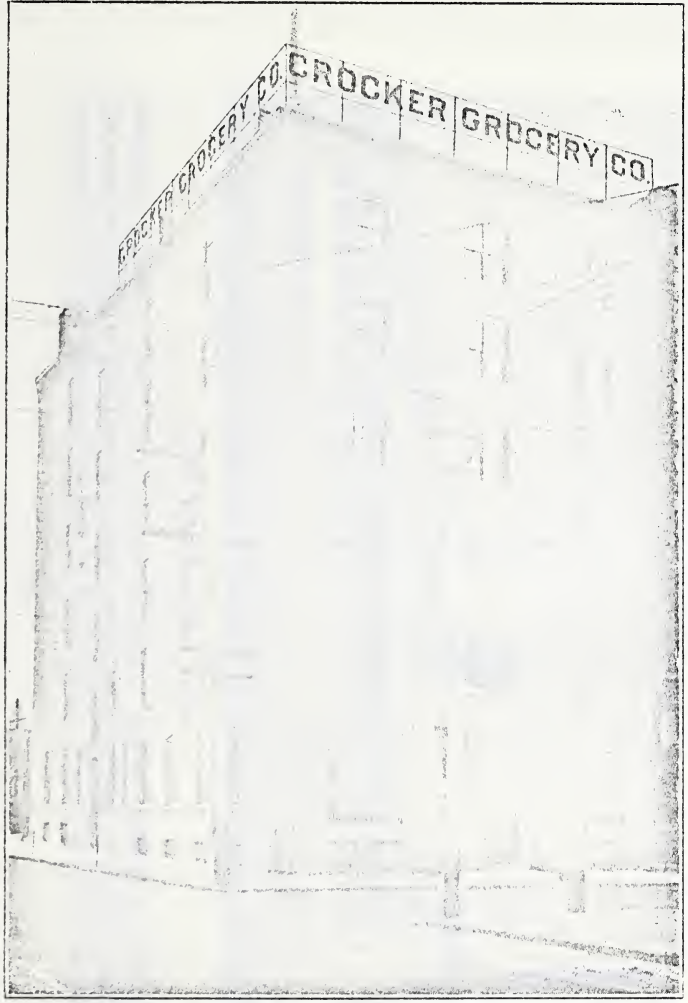


WORKS OF THE WILKES-BARRÉ LACE MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

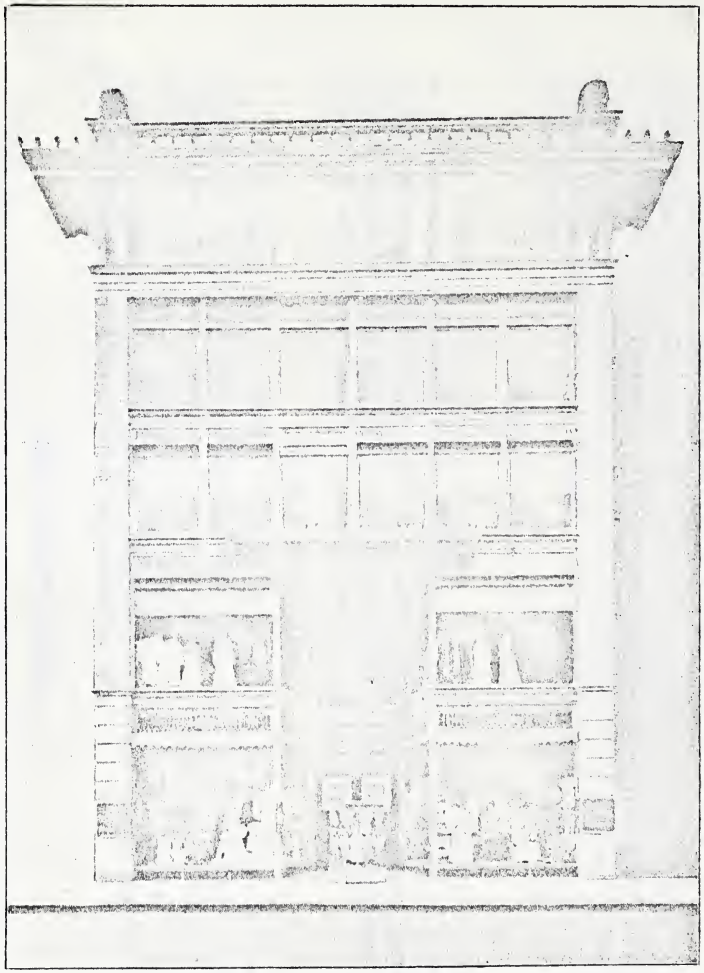
the lowliest, a useful and highly ornamental commodity, which by its very presence tends to bring cheerfulness, "and a sense of home comfort, well ordered," wherever it enters.

As many of the operatives live at a distance, it is necessary for them to bring their luncheons with them. In order to provide a comfortable and cleanly place for those so situated, an innovation will be introduced on the ground floor of the storehouse in the shape of a large dining hall supplied with tables and chairs, and having equipments for warming food, comforts, etc. This will be presided over by a matron, and will be open to the female employees of the company at the noon hour.

During the past year, the corporation has paid out in the City of Wilkes-Barré, in wages alone, the sum of $450,000.00, having an average weekly pay-



THE CROCKER GROCERY CO. BUILDING.



THE GLOBE DRY GOODS STORE.

roll of $9,000.00. The average number of operatives employed in the different departments and upon the Company's grounds is about 1,400, of which about two-thirds are females. The present day sees the entire plant raised to a state of up-to-date perfection which is unexcelled in the system of processes, and in the intelligence and efficiency of its operatives, by any textile industry in the country.

Wyoming Valley Lace Co.

The Wyoming Valley Lace Company is another firm established for the manufacture of Nottingham lace curtains and since its inception in 1891, has made steady growth, having made two large additions to its plant, located on Union Street, in 1898 and 1899, and now employs about 600 operatives. This plant has lately been absorbed by the Columbia Shade Cloth Co.

Doran Lace Mill.

In the latter part of 1905 a company was formed for the manufacture of a high grade of lace curtains under the firm name of The Doran Lace Manufacturing Company, with Ambrose West as president. The factory is located on the site of the old Charter House on Hazle Street, and when running at its full capacity employs about 200 hands. The class of curtains made includes Irish Point, Renaissance, Cluny, hand embroideries, etc.

Adder-Machine Works.

Through the influence of the Board of Trade and by the help of local capital, two new industries of great promise have recently been added to the valley's

THE ADDER-MACHINE WORKS.

numerous plants. One is the Adder-Machine Works, located at Kingston. Its main building is 250 feet by 80 feet, with an L 80 feet by 50 feet, and it is expected to employ 500 hands when in full swing. The other plant is the

Mathesou Motor-Car Works.

situated at Forty Fort, about 2 miles from the Court House. Its total capitalization is $1,100,000, and it will be one of the foremost motor-car works in the United States. Already its first plant is extensive. The main building is 600x80 feet, its blacksmith shop 60x80 feet, and the boiler room 30x60 feet. They are all concrete buildings, and fitted with the most modern machinery. Many hundred men will be employed and already its output has been sold for ten years.

Muslin Underwear.

Another industry that began modestly and is now one of the city's thriving concerns, is that of Galland Brothers. They started in 1881 in a building belonging to A. S. Orr on East Market Street. In 1886 they moved to their present location on the corner of South and Washington streets. In 1897 they made a four-story addition to their plant, making a covered floor space of 49,000 square feet and employing six hundred people, mostly women. Over seven thousand garments are made daily and their market covers the whole United States.

Wyoming Cutlery Co.

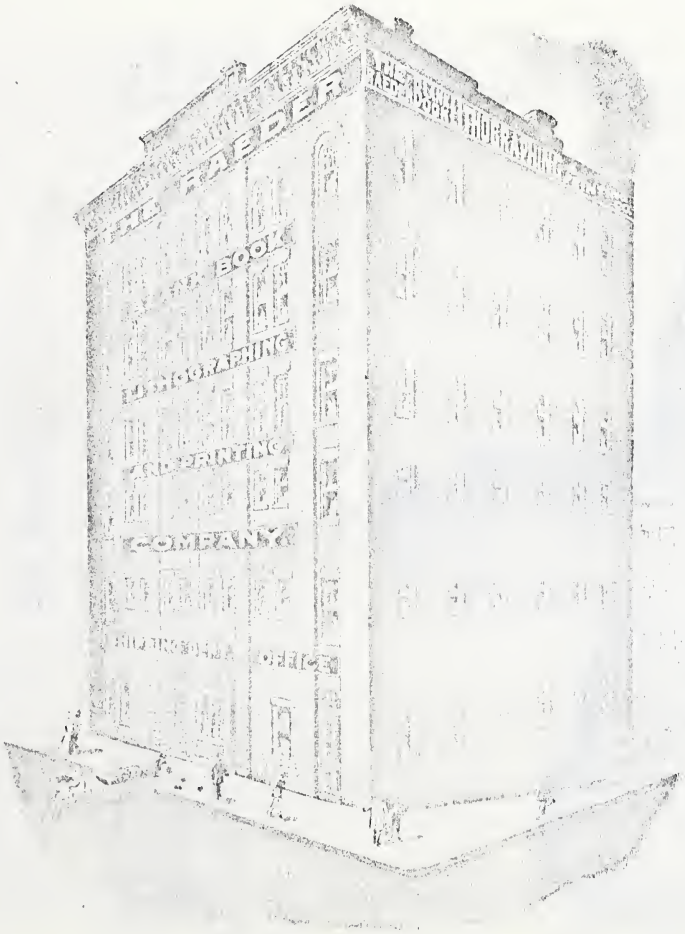
This industry, situated on Horton and Warren Streets, was established in 1888 and has gradually developed until it has more than quadrupled its original capacity, and now employs about 200 people. Its product, table cutlery,

WYOMING CUTLERY WORKS.

amounts to one hundred and fifty gross a day. It is a most promising enterprise and has for its President H. H. Harvey, Vice President W. J. Harvey, Treasurer Abram Nesbitt.

A Variety of Industries.

Other important manufacturing and mechanical industries of the city are the Wilkes-Barré Silk Company; Bertels Tinware factory; The Penn Tobacco Company; the Collins & Hale furniture factory, etc.



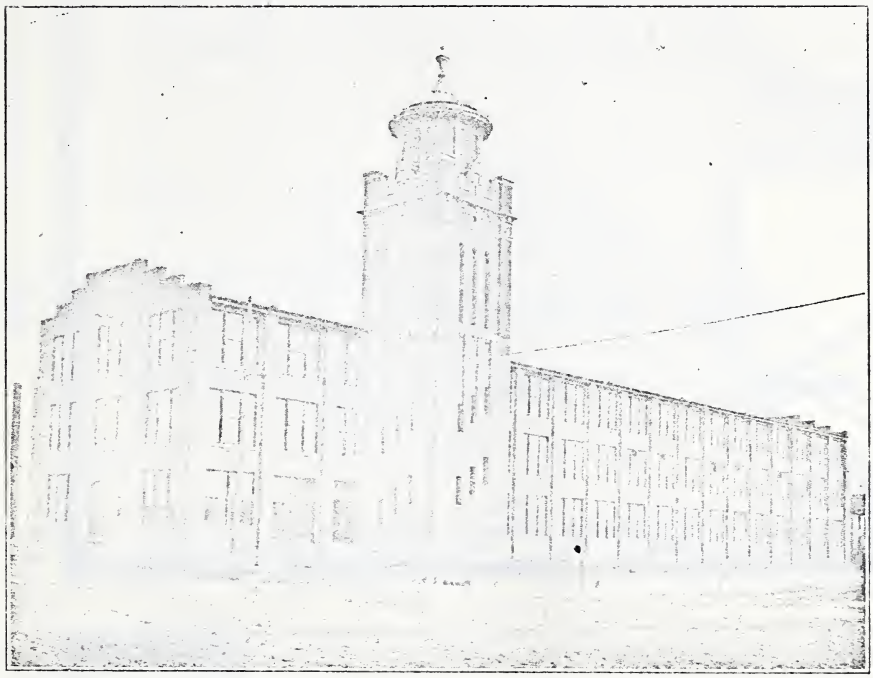
THE RAEDER PRINTERY.

JONAS LONG'S SONS' DEPARTMENT STORE.

Silk Industry.

Hess & Goldsmith.

Among the many substantial industries which gives Wilkes-Barré prominence in the manufacturing world is that owned by Hess, Goldsmith & Company. This firm manufactures high class silk dress goods of all kinds. Their first mill was located at South Wilkes-Barré, in the Fifteenth Ward, in 1886, to which additions were made in 1888 and 1897, until it has now a floor space



THE HESS & GOLDSMITH SILK MILL.

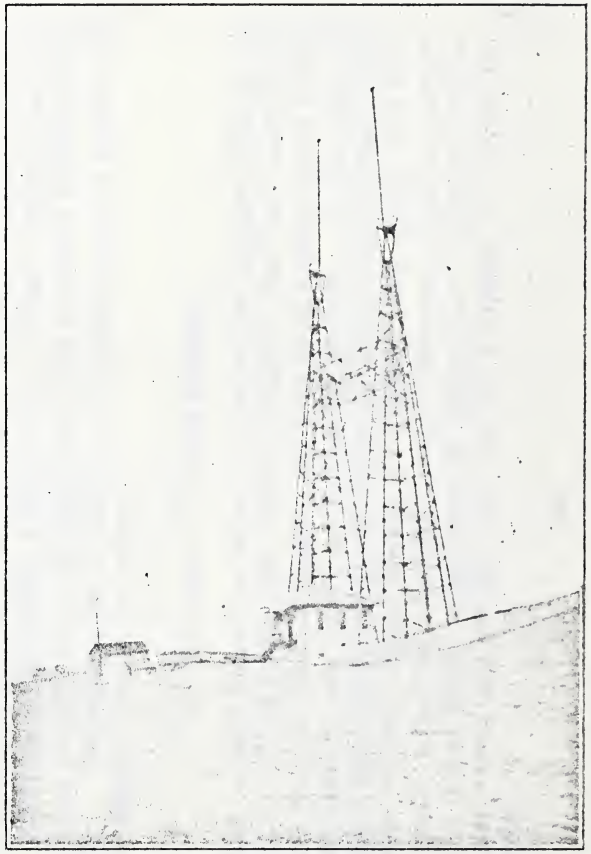
of 60,000 square feet and employs about 500 hands. It is devoted to weaving with its preparatory branches, including a throwing plant for the spinning of silk.

Their new mill at Kingston is a splendid example of modern mill construction, a credit to architect and builder alike. It covers 55,000 square feet and will be devoted exclusively to weaving. At present 150 hands are employed, to be increased to 400 in the near future.

The Raeder Printery.

The Raeder Blank Book, Lithographing and Printing Co., established by J. W. Raeder twenty-five years ago, is a most flourishing plant, and employs nearly 100 people. It is located at 16, 18 and 20 North Franklin Street, in a six-story building, having a floor space of 18,032 square feet.

THE WELLES BUILDING, PUBLIC SQUARE.



THE FATHER MURGAS WIRELESS TELEGRAPH TOWER.

Stegmaier's Brewery.

One of the largest and most modernly equipped plants in the United States is that of the Stegmaier Brewing Co., Wilkes-Barré, Pa., Brewers and Bottlers of Beer, Porter and Malt Extract.

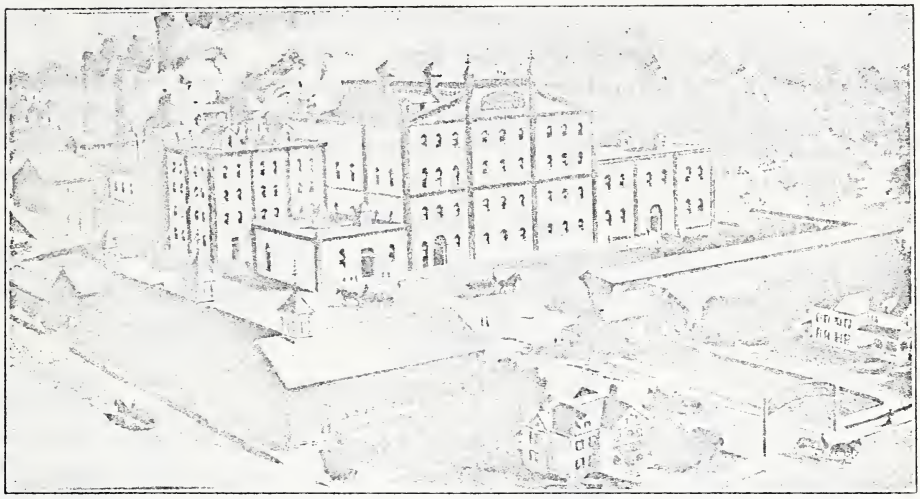
The history of the Stegmaier Brewery affords a striking illustration of the truth that persistent plodding brings success. From a small beginning, back in the early fifties, when Charles Stegmaier was employed by day in a planing mill, devoting his leisure moments, morning and evening, to the manu-

STEGMAIER'S BREWERY.

facture and vending of beer, the formula of which he brought from Germany, this gigantic plant has reached its present dimensions, employing hundreds of men, over two hundred head of heavy draft horses, several auto trucks and a whole train of refrigerator cars. In addition to the home plant they own and operate cold storage plants at Sayre, Towanda, Pittston, Dunmore, Taylor, Nanticoke, Bloomsburg, Plymouth, Lehighton, etc. Their bottling house, located at the home plant, is one of the largest and most up-to-date bottling houses in the country. The whole plant in this city covers many acres of ground and its output is 600,000 barrels per annum.

The Reichard & Weaver Brewery.

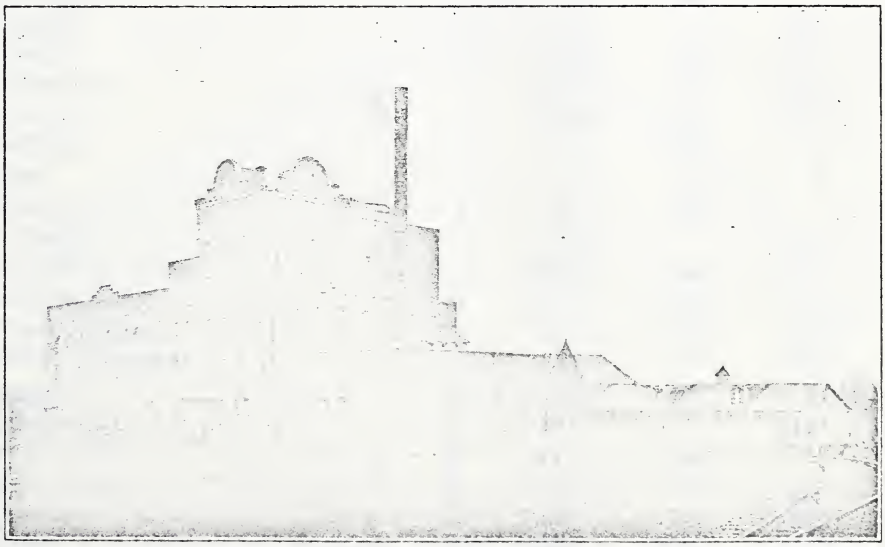
The oldest industry located in the city is that of the Reichard Brewery on Water Street. In 1833 Judge John Reichard bought a small and insignificant brewing plant from one Thomas Ingham, and from small beginnings has sprung the fine establishment now known as Reichard's Brewery. In the hands of Judge Reichard the industry slowly developed until the old gentleman's death in 1884, when his son, Colonel George N. Reichard, took charge, and since then it has greatly prospered. In 1890 George Weaver was taken into partnership and later it was finally merged into the Pennsylvania Brewing combine. The plant covers three and one-half acres and has a capacity of 150,000 barrels per annum.



THE REICHARD & WEAVER BREWERY.

The Luzerne County Brewing Co.

This concern was only chartered in 1905, but it has already erected a commodious plant at Brookside and has a capacity for a very large output.



LUZERNE COUNTY BREWING CO. PLANT.

The Oldest Industry.

No article on the industrial life of the city would be complete without a reference to the old established firm now known as The Miner-Hillard Milling

Company. This business was instituted in 1795, and to-day operates five mills in the Wyoming Valley. It is the leading milling company of Pennsylvania, and a considerable portion of their products goes to Europe and South Africa. Their mills have a grinding capacity of 15,000 bushels of corn, 700 bushels of wheat, 600 bushels of rye and 500 bushels of buckwheat daily and employ about 100 men.

Factory Inspector's Report.

The Factory Inspector's last report demonstrates more than anything that can be written, the extent and variety of Wilkes-Barré's industries.

Establishments	No. of Establishments	Employed	Males	Females
Tobacco	1	32	8	24
Hosiery	1	40	23	17
Machine shop	6	934	934	
Planing mills	4	107	107	
Silk mills	3	1098	116	982
Furniture	1	36	35	1
Soap	1	15	15	
Bake shops	13	123	123	
Embroidery	2	29	7	22
Lace works	5	1561	593	968
Car repair	1	40	40	
Overalls	2	40	2	38
Laundry	5	113	28	85
Underwear	1	380	24	356
Wire rope	1	435	380	55
Bedding	2	21	16	5
Tapes	1	7	1	6
Electric	1	20	20	
Millinery	4	94		94
Department stores	14	1002	346	656
Clothing stores	3	93	84	9
Printing offices	10	276	252	24
Ladies' garments	1	71	7	64
Cigars	2	15	14	1
Dressmaking	9	146		146
Brick	2	144	144	
Shirt waists	1	55	6	49
Tinware	2	140	78	62
Springs	1	294	294	
Axles	1	281	281	
Fuse	1	14	10	4
Cutlery	1	160	150	10
Totals	103	7816	4138	3678

WYOMING VALLEY HOTEL.

HOTEL STERLING.

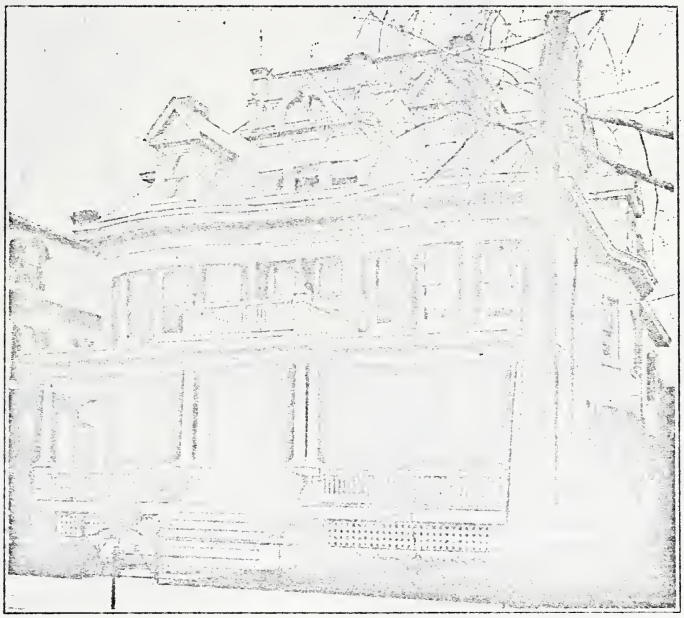
Electric Roads.

While it is an undoubted fact that the increase of railroad transportation contributed largely to the enormous development of coal mining and the establishment of high grade industries, the rapid growth of inter-communication between Wilkes-Barré and the various cities, towns and hamlets of the Wyoming Valley and territory has done as much as anything to establish this city's premier position and added to her wealth and importance. Within a twenty-mile circle there is a population of 400,000 tributary to her. Wilkes-Barré is the business and social center of the Wyoming Valley. To-day the life of the city is in a large measure that of the vast population referred to, for it is to Wilkes-Barré they come for their pleasure and amusements and to do their shopping. It is Wilkes-Barré newspapers that circulate among them and it is in this city, largely, they deposit their money. Professional and business men engage in their vocation in Wilkes-Barré but live in the suburbs and large numbers of the people employed at the collieries, mills and factories within this city have their homes in the surrounding towns and villages. Within a nine mile circle having Wilkes-Barré's Public Square as its center, there are two cities, twenty-three boroughs and numerous townships, which, if included in the limits of a Greater Wilkes-Barré, would give a population of 185,000, and make it the third city of the State. The present conditions are largely due to the admirable system of electric street railroads and third rail systems connected with the city.

First Street Railways.

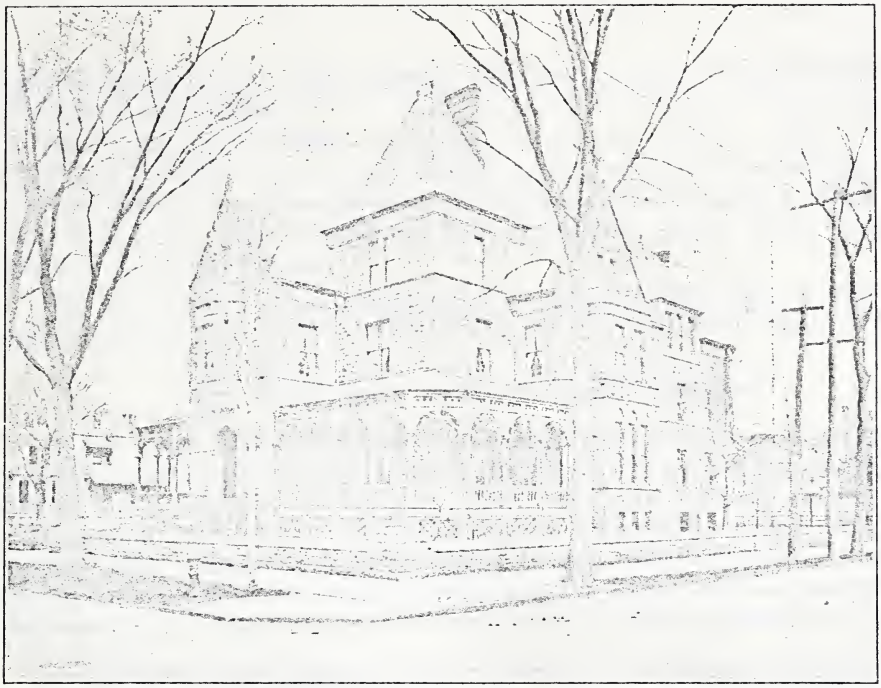
The city early adopted George Francis Train's method of street railroads, the motive power being horses. For many years but few improvements were made after the construction of the original lines built by W. J. Harvey, viz.: From corner of the Square down South Main Street to corner of Hanover street; from the corner of the Square down West Market Street to Kingston depot, for the purpose of connecting with the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western system; and the road from the corner of East Market and Northampton Streets to Ashley, built by Al. S. Orr and known as the Coalville railroad, the charter of which permitted the use of steam power and the carrying of freight. These lines, while a slight advance on existing methods of locomotion, were slow in their way and were popularly known as the "Hee Haw Maud" roads. They scarcely added to the city's development, but with the advent of electricity as a motive power there came a change as by a magician's wand. It was "Hey presto" and at once the city took on new life and by the extension of urban and inter-urban communication it has made Wilkes-Barré the center of a great net-work of electric railroads.

In 1887 the first electric road was planned and a charter secured. Three Wilkes-Barré young men secured the contract for the construction, B. H. Carpenter, E. N. Carpenter and A. C. Robertson, who was afterwards burned to



RESIDENCE OF HON. GEO. J. STEGMAIER.

RESIDENCE OF THOMAS H. ATHERTON.



THE R. J. FLICK RESIDENCE.

RESIDENCE OF FRANCIS A. PHELPS.

death at Ithaca, N. Y. The company was known as the Wilkes-Barré & Suburban Railroad Company.

The Wilkes-Barré section was opened in January, 1888. The first route was a loop by which cars left the Public Square, went out East Market Street to Canal Street (now Pennsylvania Avenue) and thence north to Duck Pond (now Brookside), then around the City Hospital to North Main Street and thence to the Public Square.

The next road was that engineered by John B. Reynolds, a West Side electric railroad from Wilkes-Barré to Kingston over the North Street bridge.

The Wilkes-Barré & W. V. Traction System.

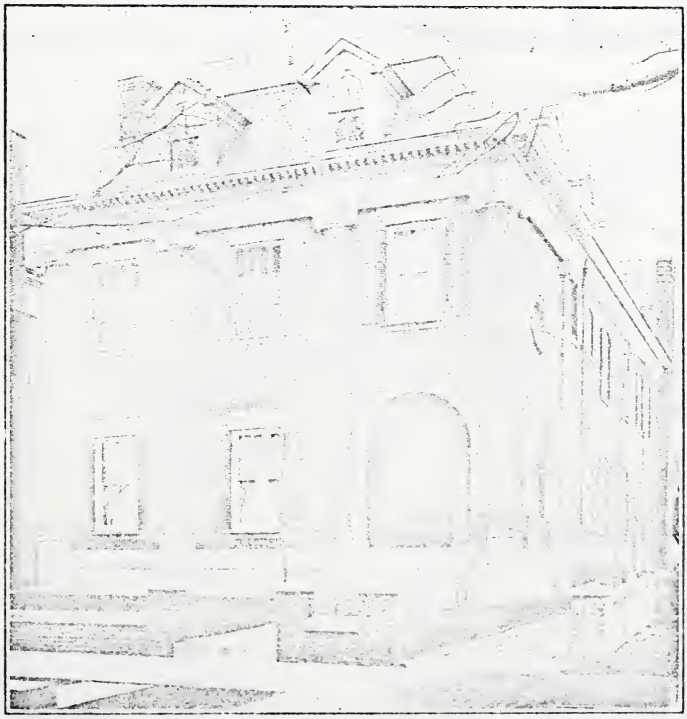
In 1891 the Wilkes-Barré and Wyoming Valley Traction Company was organized and bought the franchises of the existing horse car lines we have described, and also of the electric roads. These were at once rebuilt, revolutionized and gradually extended to contiguous towns, making the Public Square the starting point. The company now operates eighty miles of well laid track and has the finest system to be found anywhere in the State. Its cars are large and comfortable, all being well heated in winter time, unlike the street cars in many

RESIDENCE OF JOHN N. CONYNGHAM.

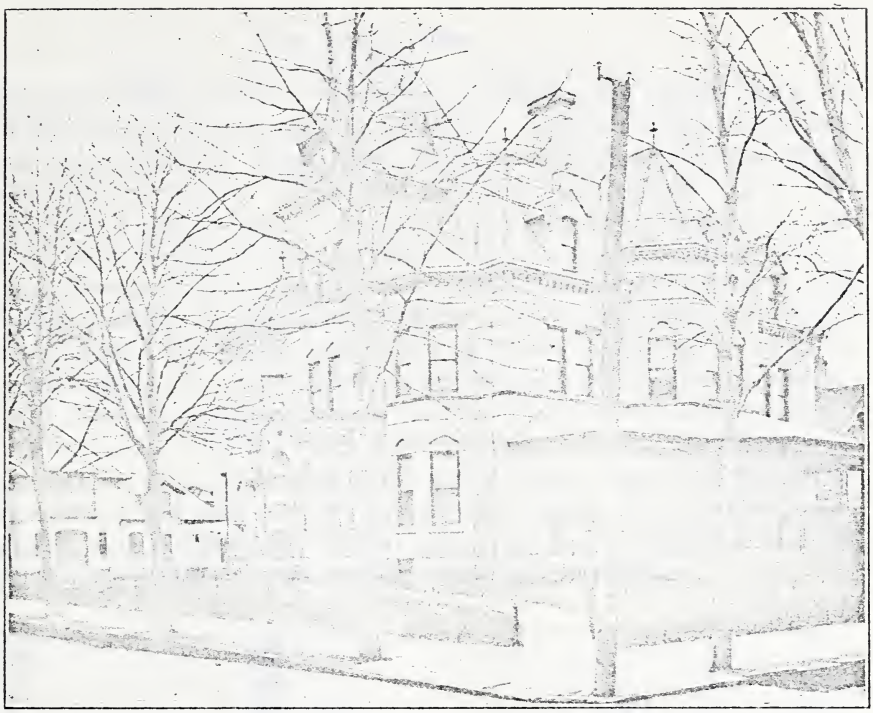
towns and cities. A regular and low-fare service is maintained by the Traction Company between Wilkes-Barré and every village in the Valley, and with some villages beyond. It has over 400 men in its employ.

The Hazleton Railway.

Another new departure was made when the Wilkes-Barré and Hazleton Railway, an electric road operated by the third rail system, was opened early in 1904. By it the city of Hazleton (with a population upwards of 16,000 and distant from Wilkes-Barré twenty miles in an air-line), and other towns in the southern section of Luzerne County, have been brought into close connection with Wilkes-Barré. The road is constructed in a very substantial manner, and is expensively and admirably equipped. Cars are run every hour from each terminal, and the trip is made in about an hour and a quarter. This company is now busily engaged in extending its road right into the city. Its depot will be built where the old Dickson machine shop used to stand on North Pennsylvania Avenue (Canal Street) and it will be a commodious and attractive building. The city will be reached by an elevated structure extending from the rear of Coal Street and crossing all the railroad lines by means of a steel viaduct.



RESIDENCE OF ANDREW F. DERR.



RESIDENCE OF GEORGE S. BENNETT.

RESIDENCE OF A. J. DAVIS.

In December, 1903, another "third rail" road, having Wilkes-Barré as one of its terminals, was thrown open to the public. This is a double track road, nineteen and a-half miles in length, and extends from Wilkes-Barré to Scranton—passing through the city of Pittston and numerous villages. It is officially termed the "Laurel Line." It was constructed and is owned by the Lackawanna and Wyoming Valley Railroad Company—a controlling interest in which was purchased a short time since by the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company for about $6,000,000. In the construction and equipment of the Laurel Line neither money nor skill was spared in an effort to make the road a model one, and it stands to-day undoubtedly the most expensively constructed and finest equipped electric road in America. Cars are run every twenty minutes between Wilkes-Barré and Scranton, covering the distance in forty-three minutes, at a low rate of fare; while express cars—operated daily during the mid-morning and late afternoon hours—make thirty minute trips. Both this road and the Hazleton "third-rail" road carry freight as well as passengers, and the traffic on both roads is large and increasing.

RESIDENCE OF DR. L. I. SHOEMAKER.

RESIDENCE OF THE LATE HON. CHARLES A. MINER.

Banking Institutions.

No sketch of the rise and development of Industrial Wilkes-Barré would be complete without an extended reference to its magnificent banking system. Indeed statistics of the Banks show, in compact form, the city's importance and standing in the business and financial world more than anything else that might be said. It is no exaggeration to say that in its banking facilities Wilkes-Barré is unsurpassed. Including the Kingston Bank, there are three National Banks, and seven Savings Banks and Trust Companies, operated under state charters—with an eleventh bank in process of incorporation in the Wilkes-Barré district. On January 1, 1906, their showing was as follows:

Capital	$ 2,168,000.00
Surplus	4,257,741.01
Total deposits	20,831,596.97

Wyoming National Bank.

The oldest of the banks in existence to-day is the Wyoming Bank, located in commodious quarters on the south-west corner of South Franklin and West Market Streets. It was first established in 1829, and its place of business was on South Franklin Street at the north end of Dr. Levi Shoemaker's present grounds. Later the bank was removed to the Hollenback building on River Street; thence to the building it now occupies. It was chartered in 1865 as a national bank, Col. Charles Dorrance then being elected President. It is still in the front rank of the city's financial institutions. On the third of January, 1906, it reported:

Capital	$ 150,000.00
Surplus and undivided profits	553,544.42
Deposits	2,286,650.91

The First National Bank.

The next bank to spring into existence was the First National Bank in 1863. This bank has the honor of being the thirtieth national bank organized in the country, James McLean being its first President. It was first located in the Chahoon Hall building on West Market Street, now occupied by W. D. Beers as a grocery store. This bank now occupies the most prominent building on the southerly side of the Public Square. The present structure, however, is to be retained for office purposes while a new and splendid building is being erected next door for bank purposes only.

Financial standing January 3, 1906:

Capital	$ 375,000.00
Surplus and undivided profits	367,490.95
Deposits	2,134.086.07

Second National Bank.

In the same year, 1863, the Second National Bank was instituted under the presidency of T. H. Atherton and began business on West Market Street, near the corner of River Street. Inasmuch as the present structure is inadequate to growing needs, the directorate intend, in the near future, to erect a more commodious building on the north-east corner of North Franklin and West Market Streets, which is expected to be of a palatial character. On the 1st of January, 1906, its report showed:

Capital	$ 450,000.00
Surplus and undivided profits	650,000.00
Deposits	4,062,720.16

Miners' Savings Bank.

The Miners' Savings Bank was established in 1868 and A. C. Laning was its first President. It occupies the same site on South Franklin Street as when organized. It is one of the city's prosperous institutions and owns the large block on the east corner of South Franklin and West Market

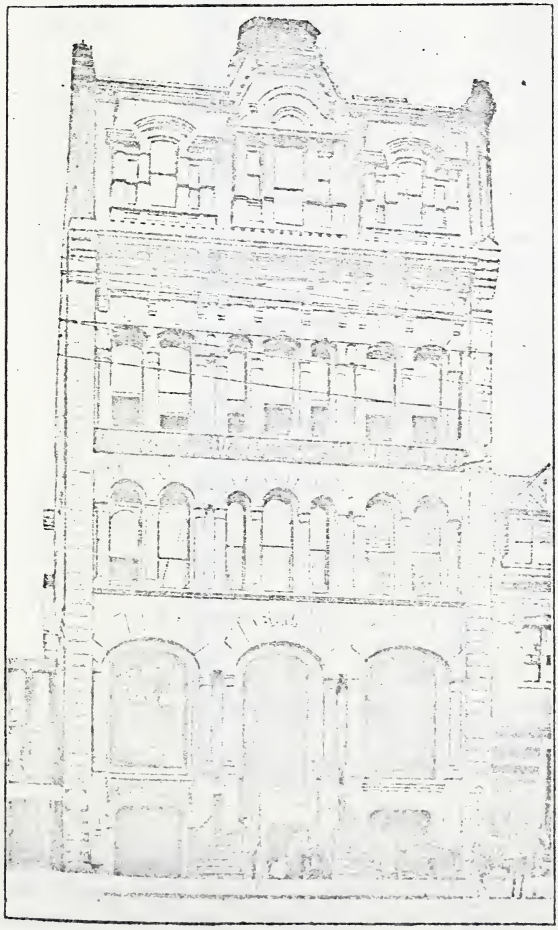
Streets where it will shortly erect handsome and more commodious quarters. On 3rd January, 1906, its showing was:

Capital	$ 150,000.00
Surplus and undivided profits	829,809.22
Deposits	2,717,835.95

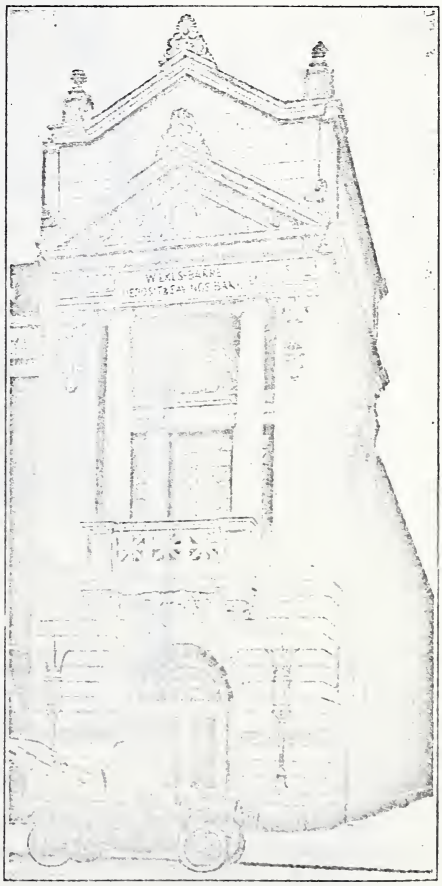
The Wilkes-Barré Deposit and Savings Bank.

The Wilkes-Barré Deposit and Savings Bank, now occupying the handsome structure on the south side of the Public Square, was chartered in 1871, Joseph Lippincott being its first President. It began business in a modest way in the basement of the First National Bank building and on the 3rd January, 1906, had the following showing:

Capital	$ 150,000.00
Surplus and undivided profits	334,599.56
Deposits	2,391,979.37



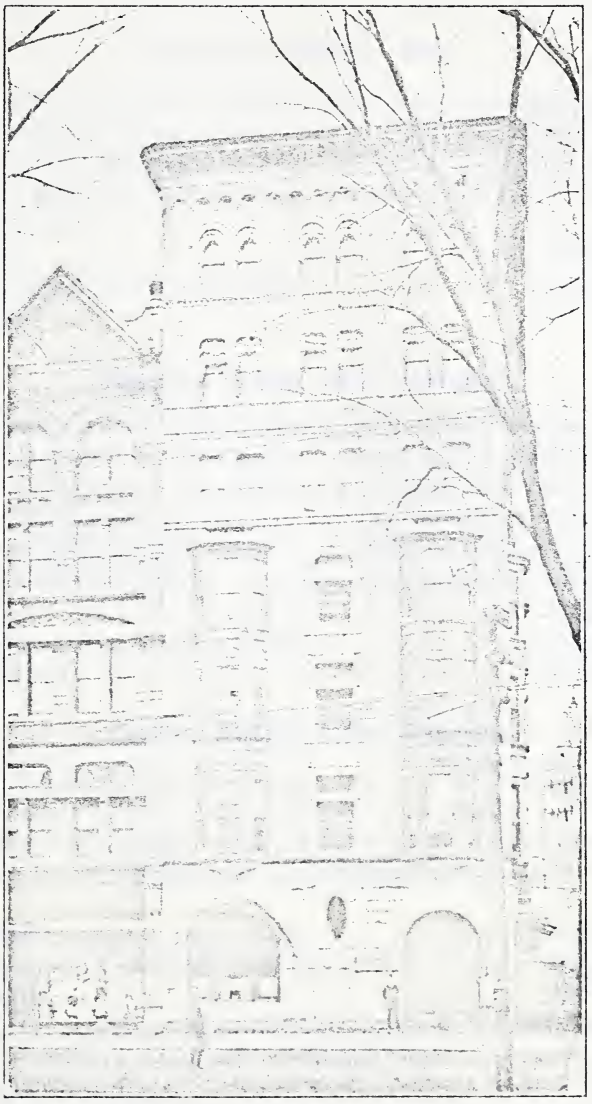
FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING.



W-B. DEPOSIT & SAVINGS BANK.

The People's Bank.

The People's Bank, occupying the ground floor of its own building, seven stories high, on the west side of the Public Square, was established in 1872.



THE PEOPLE'S BANK BUILDING.

The first President was Reuben J. Flick. It began business in a portion of the old Music Hall building, where the Sterling now stands; afterwards it was located in the Troxell building, now a part of the Weitzenkorn property, finally

moving to its own valuable property. Its standing on 3rd January, 1906, showed:

Capital	$ 250,000.00
Surplus and undivided profits	475,000.00
Deposits	2,023,903.23

Anthracite Savings Bank.

In was in 1876 when the Anthracite Savings Bank began business on the premises now occupied by the Press Club on South Franklin Street. Andrew Hunlock was the first President. It is now finely housed in its own building across the street from its first business location. On 3rd January, 1906, its financial exhibit was:

Capital	$ 200,000.00
Surplus and undivided profits	448,000.00
Deposits	1,928,416.92

Wyoming Valley Trust Company.

It was seventeen years later, in 1893, before the next bank was chartered, The Wyoming Valley Trust Company. It commenced business on the north side of the Public Square, Fred. Theis being its first and only President. It is a growing and prosperous institution and has bought a valuable site on the north-west corner of the Public Square, on which it proposes erecting commodious banking quarters and offices. Its report on January 3, 1906, showed:

Capital	$ 243,000.00
Surplus and undivided profits	318,848.76
Deposits	1,659,412.05

Luzerne County Trust Company.

The tenth of Wilkes-Barré's splendid group of banks to be opened for business was the Luzerne County Trust Company, on August 4, 1902—right in the middle of the great coal strike—and is located on 27 Public Square. George K. Powell has been its only President. Its financial standing on January 3, 1906, was:

Capital	$ 150,000.00
Surplus and undivided profits	182,088.83
Deposits	613,127.63

It will thus be seen that these banking institutions sprang into existence just as the needs of the city required. Another bank has just been incorporated, named the South Side Bank, and will be located on Hazle Street near foot of Washington Street. That these banks are carefully and conservatively managed is amply demonstrated by their surplus, their real estate holdings, the dividends they are paying and the value of their stocks. The banks unquestionably form the capstone of the magnificent position which Industrial Wilkes-Barré has attained.

The Newspapers.

No better evidence of a city's prosperity and up-to-dateness can be given than the make-up and character of its daily newspapers. Wilkes-Barré possesses four daily papers that will compare favorably with those of any city in the Commonwealth. They are virile, progressive journals, carefully edited, well patronized and all bear evidence of prosperity.

The Wilkes-Barre Record.

The oldest newspaper of the eminently substantial city of Wilkes-Barré is the *Wilkes-Barré Record*. The journal, together with its ancestry, has had a career of three-quarters of a century. It is a lineal descendent of the *Anti-*

Masonic Advocate, begun in 1832 by Elijah Worthington, and purchased in 1838 by Amos Cisty, who changed the name to *The Wilkes-Barré Advocate*. In 1843 Sharpe D. Lewis took charge of the *Advocate* and in 1853 it was sold to William P. Miner, who changed the name to *The Record of the Times*, which name the semi-weekly edition still bears.

Mr. Miner in 1873 began the experiment of publishing a daily edition, first in the morning and later in the evening. Mr. Miner was one of the most prominent journalists of the State and the *Record* wielded considerable influence. In 1877 the plant was sold to the Record of the Times Publishing Co., with Dr. William H. Bradley in charge, the time of publication being changed back to the morning.

In 1883 the newspaper was purchased by Charles B. Snyder, Dr. F. C. Johnson and Joseph C. Powell. They immediately began making improvements and devoted their energy to building up the paper. A few years later Mr. Snyder sold his interest to the other partners. The circulation rapidly increased and the *Record* steadily advanced in influence and prestige. When the present management assumed control the paper was fed into the press by hand, but now a modern machine, costing $30,000, is necessary, capable of printing 25,000 papers an hour, pasted and folded.

Up to 1900 the paper was published by Johnson & Powell as partners, but in that year a charter was issued to the Wilkes-Barré Record Co., with J. C. Powell as President and F. C. Johnson as Secretary-treasurer. The present officers of the company are: F. C. Johnson, President; J. A. Boyd, Vice President; Guy W. Moore, Secretary-treasurer. The editor is Eugene T. Giering; City Editor, P. P. Mangan; News Editor, W. L. McCollum.

Wilkes-Barre News.

The *Wilkes-Barré News* passed its quarter century mark over a year ago, having issued the first number Tuesday, November 18, 1884. It is a morning journal and is the only one-cent daily paper issued in the city. Its party policy is Independent Democratic and it has an excellent circulation. It is a newspaper that has had a varying fortune but is now a prosperous enterprise. A little over twelve months ago it was incorporated as the Wilkes-Barré News Company, having well-known citizens at the head. The following are its officers: President, Hon. G. J. Stegmaier; Secretary, Ambrose West; Treasurer, M. S. Shaffer; General Manager, A. W. Betterly; Editor, M. J. O'Toole.

Wilkes-Barre Times.

The *Wilkes-Barré Times* was sixteen years old on March 21, 1906. It was established in Kingston by A. A. Holbrook as a morning daily, but in September, 1891, it came into the control of C. B. Snyder and was removed to this city and made an afternoon paper. In May, 1894, Mr. Snyder transferred his interest to the *Wilkes-Barré Times*, an incorporated company with Liddon Flick as President and Editor. Subsequently, R. Jay Flick joined the staff and be-

came Treasurer and General Manager, and under the joint control of the Messrs. Flick the daily rapidly forged into the front rank as an influential and enterprising journal. In 1895 the *Times* removed into its present commodious quarters at 35 West Market Street, devoting the whole of the four floors to the work of the paper. In 1903 a three-story addition was made to the building and a new three-deck Goss perfecting press, capable of turning out 25,000 papers an hour, was installed. The composing room contains five Mergenthaler linotype machines, and they are in continuous use. The job room has just been equipped with new machines and, altogether, the *Times* plant is modern and up-to-date, while its offices are the handsomest in the city.

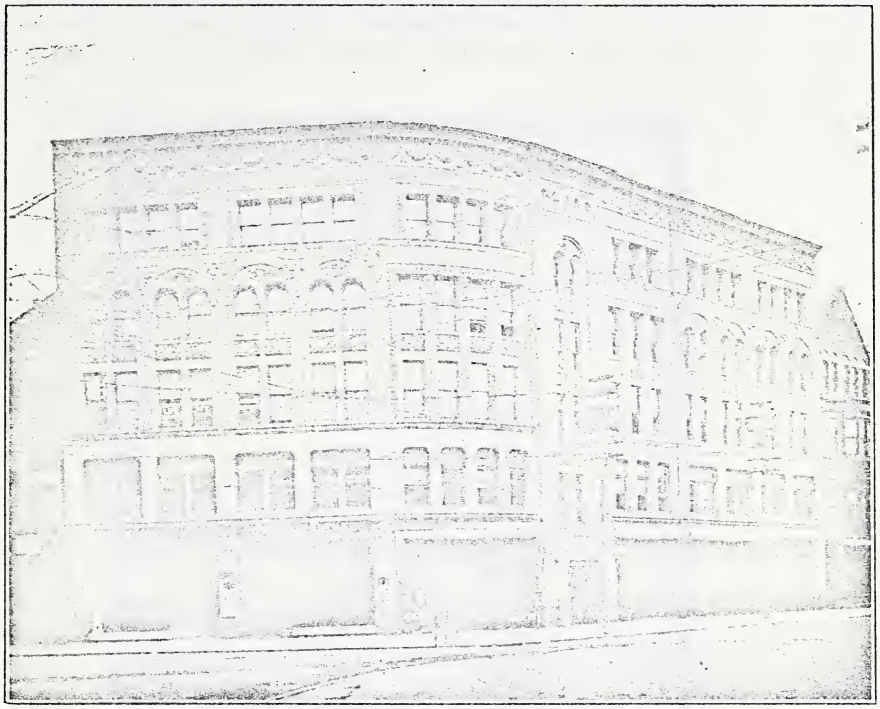
Mr. Liddon Flick died July 2, 1905, and was succeeded in the direction of the paper by his brother, R. Jay Flick. The present officers of the company are: President and Editor, R. Jay Flick; Associate Editor, G. A. Edwards; Manager, J. Barton Cheyney; City Editor, P. J. Ramsey.

The Wilkes-Barre Leader.

The history of the newspaper enterprise which is to-day represented in the *Wilkes-Barré Leader* had its beginning in 1810, when the *Susquehanna Democrat* was established, and of this and other publications since established the present *Daily Evening Leader* is the final result, or culmination. The *Wyoming Herald* was established in 1818, the *Republican Farmer* in 1828 and the *Wyoming Republican* (at Kingston) in 1832. The latter absorbed the *Herald* in 1835 and in 1839 the *Farmer* and *Republican* were consolidated, the name *Farmer* being retained. In the meantime the *Democrat* had suspended publication and its material passed to its successors. *The Luzerne Democrat* was founded in 1845 and seven years later was consolidated with the *Farmer* under the name of the *Luzerne Union*. In 1876 the *Luzerne Leader* was established in Pittston by C. H. Chamberlin and E. Niven, and in the following February was purchased and removed to Wilkes-Barré. In 1879 it was united with the old *Luzerne Union* plant and on January 17 of that year the first issue of the *Union-Leader* was put out. On October 1, 1879, it issued its first number as an afternoon daily. In 1903 a change of personnel took place and the *Leader* is now issued by the Leader Publishing Company at 7 North Main Street.

The *Leader* is a progressive newspaper possessing an excellent plant, consisting of a battery of five linotype machines and a Hoe press of large capacity. Its officers are: President, Fred. C. Kirkendall; Secretary, H. H. Miller; Editor and Manager, E. G. Smith; City Editor, Chauncey H. Derby.

Besides the foregoing the following weekly papers are published in the city: *The Bratstvo* (Slav.), *Courier-Herald* (Labor), *Demokratischer Waechter* (German), *The Gornik* (Polish), *Luzerne County Express* (German), *Saturday Reporter, Luzerne Legal Register* (Legal), *The Industrial Gazette.*

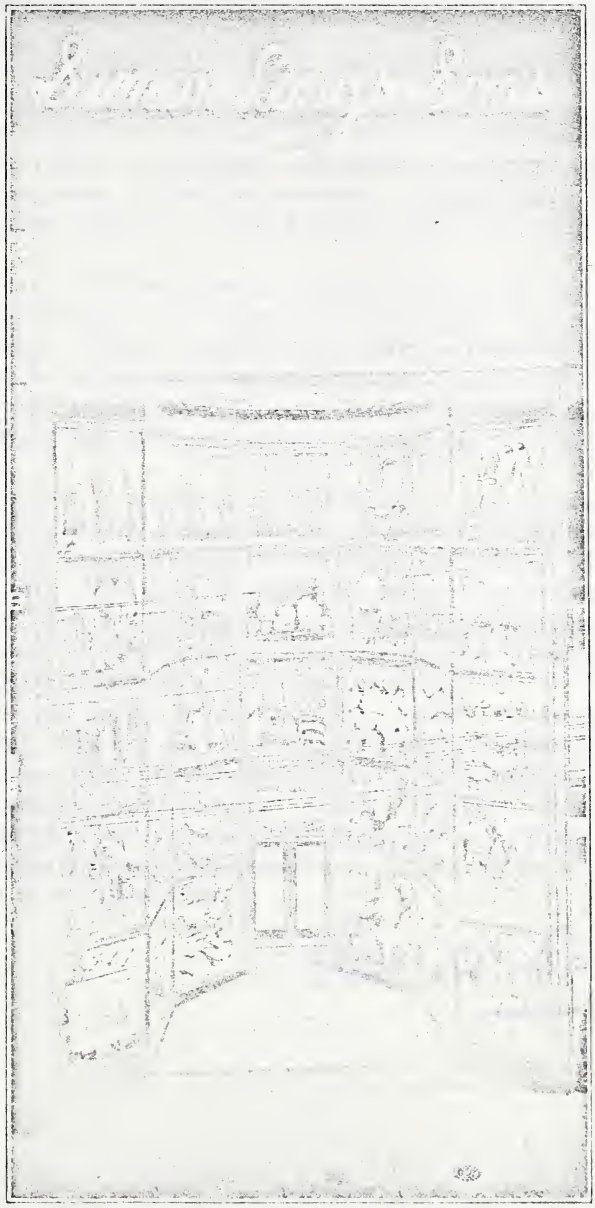


THE BENNETT BUILDING.

Mercantile Interests.

This sketch of the mercantile interests of Wilkes-Barré—wholesale and retail—must of necessity be brief. Too much can scarcely be said in praise of the character, diversity and extent of the mercantile establishments doing business in this city. By the wise administration observed by each one of his individual affairs, they have, as a collective and harmonious whole, made this thriving city the natural and general source of supply for a vast surrounding territory. Many of the wholesale houses carry stocks and occupy buildings that are not surpassed in character and size by any similar establishments in Pennsylvania outside of Philadelphia and Pittsburg. Not one individual line of enterprise is allowed to retrograde in any particular, and Wilkes-Barré is already regarded as one of the really prosperous and safe centers in which to market any line of goods. The city of Wilkes-Barré also possesses some of the largest and finest retail establishments to be found in this State, occupying magnificent and commodious premises. Some of them were established as far back as the fifties, many of them in the sixties, while quite a

number of them are over a quarter of a century old. The history of many of them, in which the sons take up successfully the work of their fathers, makes the mercantile history of Wilkes-Barré exceptionally interesting.



SIMON LONG'S SONS' CLOTHING STORE.

An Ideal City.

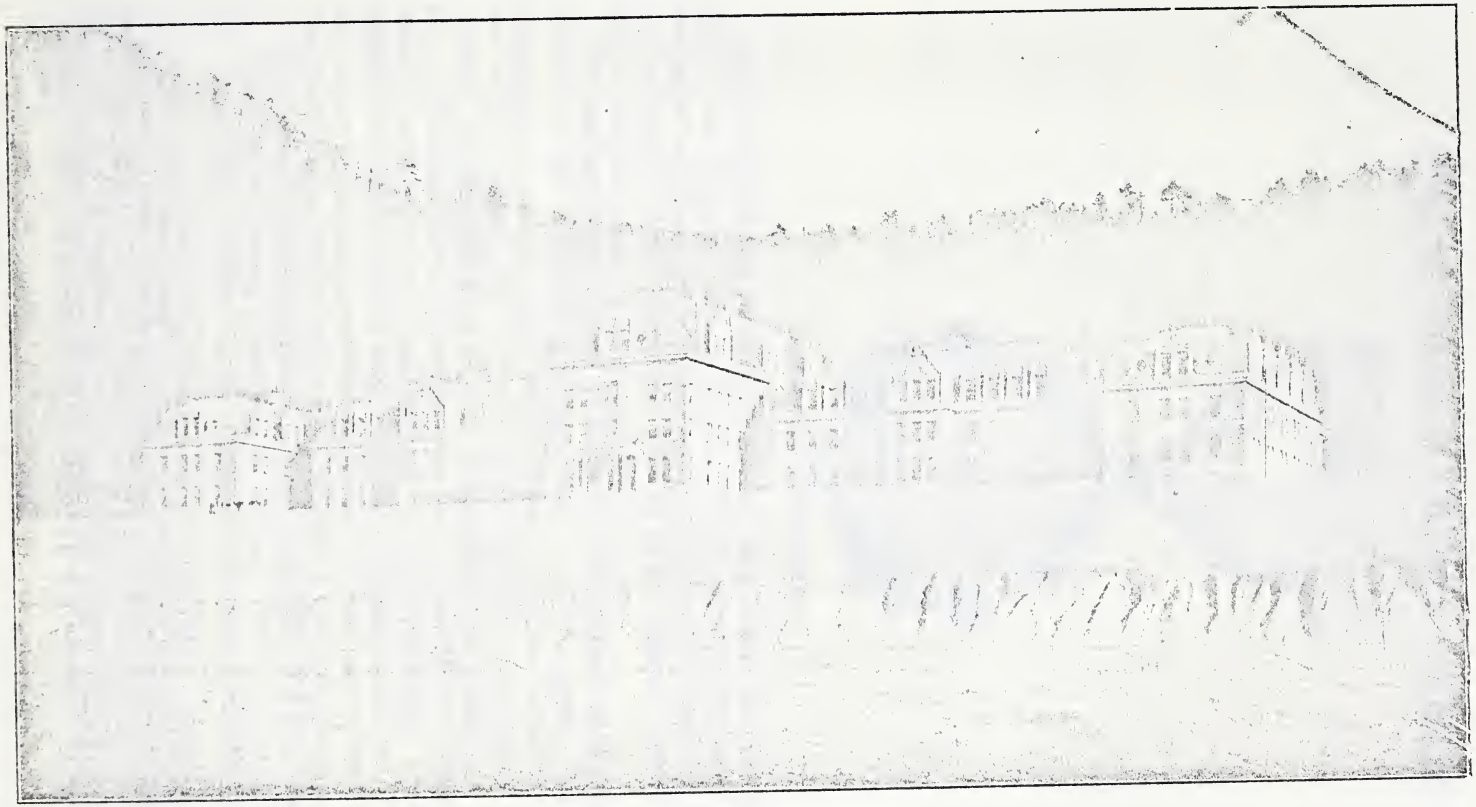
In summing up the advantages of Wilkes-Barré as an attractive city for manufacturing, mercantile and residential purposes, it may be fairly claimed that it is an ideal city in every respect. Coal is plentiful and the future supply abundant. To quote from one of the United States Mine Reports: "The Wyoming Valley mines more coal than any similar area in the world. There are unlimited quantities unmined, and there is more culm available to be cleaned and put upon the market." Hard coal is the cheapest fuel, all things considered, for steam or furnace purposes. Manufactories flourish here and there is no better testimony to the favorable conditions that exist in Wilkes-Barré.

The location of Wilkes-Barré is excellent for growth and expansion, while its shipping facilities, by eight trunk and connecting lines, are unexcelled. The character of labor available is of the best quality and the continued attraction of the mine regions for the best class of immigrants makes the supply plentiful. There is also continually growing up a class of boys and girls, all American trained and educated, that are especially available for service in industrial establishments.

The advantages of residence in Wilkes-Barré include many things which attract the attention and compel the admiration of every visitor, and which serve as a magnet to hold the loyalty of all who reside here. The drainage is of the best, and this, with the fine sanitary system in operation, the well paved streets, many of them beautifully shaded by neatly trimmed trees, contributes to a low death rate. The police and fire departments are of unusual efficiency and the tax rate is the lowest of any city in the State.

With a plentiful supply of mountain water, superior educational advantages, strong fraternal, religious and social organizations, public libraries, good theaters, enterprising daily newspapers—morning and evening—rapid transit to the center of business and the railway depots, with high-class stores conducted by men of enterprise, with financial institutions of recognized stability, with a sober, industrious and peaceful population, Wilkes-Barré is all that has been claimed for it as an Ideal City.

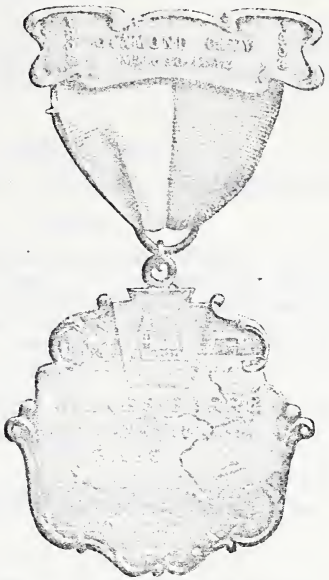
Geo. A. Edwards.



ALMSHOUSE AND HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

Conducted by the Central Poor District of Luzerne County, at Retreat, a few miles below Wilkes-Barré.

The Centennial Jubilee of 1906.



CENTENNIAL JUBILEE MEDAL.*

Since Wilkes-Barré has been a city its people have enjoyed several "great days"—one of them (to wit, July 4, 1872) being the occasion of a *belated* centennial celebration, when the one hundredth anniversary of the founding and naming of Wilkes-Barré was marked by an elaborate parade of fire- and militia-companies and various other organizations.

The centennial anniversary of the battle and massacre of Wyoming was duly observed at the Wyoming Monument July 3, 1878, several thousand persons being present—among whom were the President of the United States, two members of his Cabinet, the Governor of Pennsylvania, and other distinguished visitors. On the following day, at Wilkes-Barré, an extensive "Independence Day Celebration" took place, the town being elaborately decorated, and being crowded with those who participated in the picturesque procession which marched through the streets, and with those who came to look on. The President, his wife and sons, Attorney General Devens and Secretary of the Treasury Sherman were here, as well as many other persons of note and prominence.

The Catholic Total Abstinence Union of America held its annual convention in Wilkes-Barré during three days in August, 1905, and on one of the days (the 10th) the President of the United States and Cardinal Gibbons of the

* This medal, which is of bronze, is about one and three-fourths of an inch in diameter. Through the middle portion of its obverse the outlines of the State of Pennsylvania are shown (with the Susquehanna River and the location of Wilkes-Barré indicated), bearing the words: "Wilkes-Barré Centennial Jubilee". Above this inscription is a keystone, containing a representation of the "Old Ship Zion" which stood on Public Square many years ago. On one side of the keystone an open fireplace, with a grate for burning coal, is shown, commemorative of Jesse Fell's successful experiment with coal, referred to on page 64, *ante*. On the other side of the keystone a wooden fort, surrounded by a stockade, is represented. At the bottom of the design a coal-breaker, a train of cars, and a factory-building appear. The medal is suspended by a ribbon of green and white (the official colors of the Centennial Jubilee) from a bronze bar bearing the inscription: "Diamond City. 1806—May 10, 11, 12—1906."

Roman Catholic Church were present as guests of the Union. On that day Wilkes-Barré contained the greatest number of people that had ever assembled within its borders.

The following extracts from the records of the Councils of Wilkes-Barré relate to the "Centennial Celebration of the Erection of Wilkes-Barré into a Borough."

"SELECT COUNCIL.

"File No. 1253. Concurrent Resolution. Introduced by R. Nelson Bennett.

October 10, 1905.

"*Resolved* (the Common Council concurring), That a committee of six, three from Select and three from Common Council, be appointed by the President of each branch (said Presidents to be on said committee) to devise ways and means for the proper celebration of the one-hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of Wilkes-Barré, which will occur on March 17, 1906. Said committee to confer with the Mayor and report to Councils at the next stated meeting of Councils.

"Passed by Select Council October 10, 1905.
WM. H. REICHARD, President.
Attest: FRED. H. GATES, Clerk.

Concurred in by Common Council October 10, 1905.
ASTON H. MORGAN, President.
Attest: HARVEY WEISS, Clerk.

"Approved 12 October, 1905. FRED. C. KIRKENDALL, Mayor."

"To the Members of Select and Common Councils of the City of Wilkes-Barré.

"GENTLEMEN: The committee of six appointed to confer with the Mayor and devise ways and means for the proper celebration of the one-hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of Wilkes-Barré, which will occur on March 17, 1906, respectfully report:

"1. That after a conference with the Mayor they enthusiastically report and recommend that the City celebrate the anniversary on two days, March 16th and 17th; that one day be Civic Day, with a parade representing the industries of the City, and another be Military Day, with a parade.

"2. That this committee be continued as an advisory committee to confer with The Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, the Board of Trade and citizens generally, and arrange for the proper celebrations.

"FRED. C. KIRKENDALL, Mayor, Chairman.

Select Council—
WM. H. REICHARD,
R. H. RICHARDS,
R. NELSON BENNETT, Secretary,

Common Council—
ASTON H. MORGAN,
J. ROBERTS, JR., Treasurer,
J. A. HANLON.

"Presented in Select Council October 24, 1905, and received and filed.
"Adopted by Common Council October 24, 1905. Harvey Weiss, Clerk."

"A meeting of the three committees from the City Councils, the Board of Trade, and The Wyoming Historical and Geological Society was held after the Board of Trade meeting in the Common Council Chambers on November 27, 1905.

"Fred. C. Kirkendall, Mayor, was elected General Chairman, and R. Nelson Bennett was elected General Secretary.

"The following sub-committee of seven was appointed to prepare plans for the celebration and report to the General Committee. Fred. C. Kirkendall, *General Chairman;* C. Bow Dougherty, Asher Miner, William H. Reichard, Aston H. Morgan, Rev. Horace Edwin Hayden, R. Nelson Bennett, *General Secretary.*

"Because of the likelihood of unfavorable weather in March, it was decided that the Centennial Jubilee and Old Home Week be held on May 10, 11, and 12, 1906."

"PROCLAMATION.

"Executive Department, Wilkes-Barré, Pa., January 8, 1906.

"There is rapidly approaching an epoch in the history of our city, greater by far than any that has yet occurred, or that may occur again in another hundred years—its Century Birthday.

"The celebration of a birthday of this nature can be participated in but once by the present generation, and it is eminently proper that we should observe it with ceremonies befitting the occasion.

"On the seventeenth day of March, eighteen hundred and six, the Borough was incorporated; on the tenth day of May, eighteen hundred and six, the first Borough Council was organized, and on the twelfth day of May, eighteen hundred and six, the first Burgess took the oath of office.

"Arrangements for the observance of these historic events are under the direction of a committee composed of members of our City Councils, the Board of Trade, Historical Society, and citizens. The program will include military, civic, industrial, and fantastic parades, receptions, music of every description, a river carnival, athletic sports, and many interesting ceremonies—in fact it will include everything which goes to make up a good and profitable time.

"During the hundred years now almost past, there have gone away from the hearthstones of the city many sons and daughters to cast their lots, achieve success, and gain renown—away from the mothers who bore them and the city that nurtured them—until probably every State in our Union is represented by some who first saw the beginning of life in the city of our pride. We want them all back again for a season of reunion, and our 'Old Home' feature will be made one of the best and most enjoyable.

"*Therefore*, I, Fred. C. Kirkendall, Mayor of the City of Wilkes-Barré, Pennsylvania, do proclaim the tenth, eleventh and twelfth days of May, one thousand nine hundred and six, as the days set apart for our Centennial Jubilee; and in behalf of our citizens I do most cordially invite all friends of Wilkes-Barré, near and far, to visit us, and join with us in making this celebration one long to be remembered, and in every way worthy of the greatness of the 'Diamond City'; and further, in behalf of the committee, I most earnestly request the hearty and active support of every citizen of Wilkes-Barré and vicinity. *'Should auld acquaintance be forgot?'*

FRED. C. KIRKENDALL, *Mayor.*"

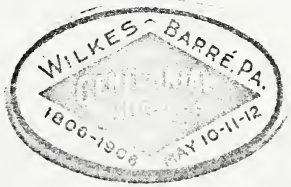


PHOTO-REPRODUCTION OF CENTENNIAL BUTTON.

RIVER STREET—WILKES-BARRÉ'S BEAUTIFUL SPEEDWAY.

FROM OSCAR J. HARVEY'S FORTHCOMING "HISTORY OF WILKES-BARRÉ." COPYRIGHTED.

OLD BALTIMORE MINE OPENING.
One of the earliest Coal Mines opened in Wilkes-Barré.

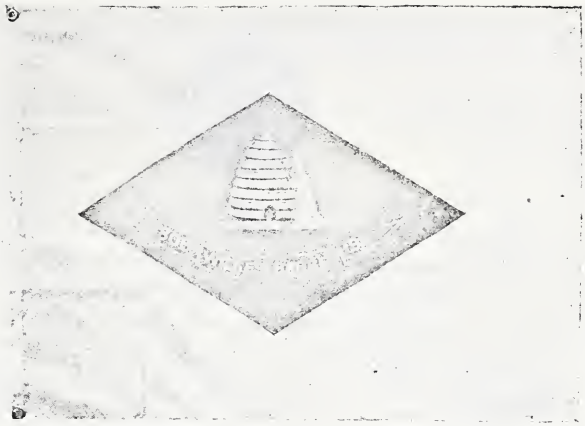


PHOTO-REPRODUCTION OF CENTENNIAL FLAG.
On a white field a green diamond, bearing, in gold, a bee hive and this legend: "1806—Wilkes-Barré—1906."

Wilkes-Barré Centennial Jubilee.

Program of Events

Thursday, May 10, 1906.

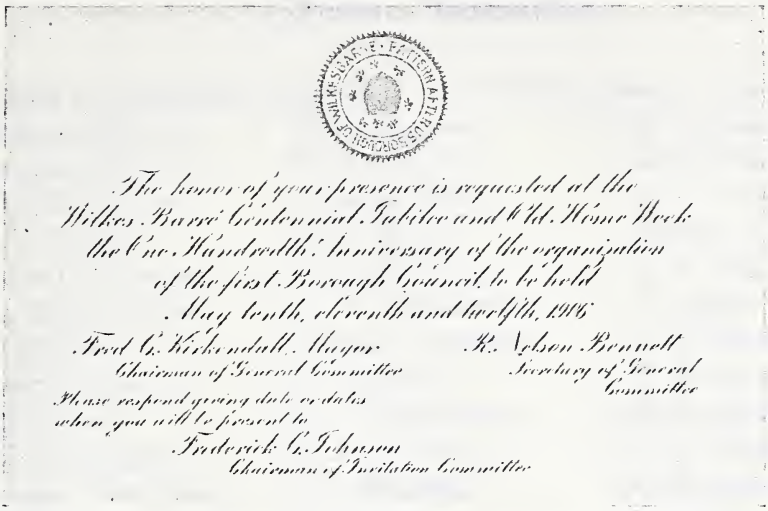
9:00 A. M.	Automobile Hill Climbing Contest, Wilkes-Barre Mountain.
10:00 A. M.	Opening Ceremonies—Historical Address, Hon. Henry W. Palmer; Choral Singing, School Children—River Common.
2:00 P. M.	Military and Firemen's Parade.
4:00 P. M.	Base Ball—Utica vs. Wilkes-Barre—Wilkes-Barre Driving Park. Admission, 25c.
8:00 P. M.	Jubilee Concert — Choral Singing — Ninth Regiment Armory. Admission 50c.

Friday, May 11, 1906.

2:00 P. M.	Civic and Industrial Parade.
4:00 P. M.	Base Ball—Utica vs. Wilkes-Barre. Admission, 25c.
7:30 P. M.	Band Concert—Children's Chorus—River Common.
8:00 P. M.	Japanese Water Carnival.
9:00 P. M.	Crowning of Jubilee Queen and Costume Ball, Ninth Regiment Armory. Admission, 50c.

Saturday, May 12, 1906.

9:00 A. M.	Jubilee Shooting Tournament—River Common.
2:00 P. M.	Amateur Athletic Meet, Y. M. C. A. Park. Admission 25c
4:00 P. M.	Base Ball—Utica vs. Wilkes-Barre. Admission 25c.
8:00 P. M.	Night Carnival—Fantastic Parade.



The honor of your presence is requested at the
Wilkes-Barré Centennial Jubilee and Old Home Week
the One Hundredth Anniversary of the organization
of the first Borough Council, to be held
May tenth, eleventh and twelfth, 1906

Fred C. Kirkendall, Mayor
Chairman of General Committee

R. Nelson Bennett
Secretary of General Committee

Please respond giving date or dates
when you will be present to

Frederick C. Johnson
Chairman of Invitation Committee

PHOTO-REPRODUCTION OF ENGRAVED INVITATION.
Sent to many prominent and distinguished persons, and to former residents of Wilkes-Barré.

General Committee.

Hon. Fred. C. Kirkendall, Mayor.....*Chairman General Committee.*
R. Nelson Bennett.....*General Secretary.*
W. D. Vallette.....*Secretary.*
George J. Stegmaier.....*Treasurer.*

John C. Bridgman, Jos. G. Schüler, Gen. C. Bow Dougherty,
James Hanlon, Rev. Horace E. Hayden,
Dr. Aston H. Morgan, William H. Reichard, John Butler Woodward,
Dr. Frederick C. Johnson, Col. Clyde M. Rishel,
James M. Boland, Dr. Alfred E. Bull, Ernest G. Smith,
Daniel L. Hart, John H. Perkins,
R. Jay Flick, Frederick M. Kirby, Jacob Roberts, Jr.,
William L. Raeder, Charles K. Gloman,
Francis A. Phelps, Richard H. Richards, Col. Asher Miner,
H. H. Ashley, Richard Sharpe,
John S. Harding, A. F. Derr.

Finance Committee.

John C. Bridgman, *Chairman,* W. H. Conyngham, *Vice-Chairman,*

George S. Bennett,
Alexander Farnham,
Dr. G. W. Guthrie,
W. J. Harvey,
George R. Bedford,
John B. Reynolds,
C. P. Hunt,
George K. Powell,
E. H. Jones,
C. E. Stegmaier,
Benjamin Reynolds,
A. F. Derr,
W. Leavenworth,
R. A. Quin,
F. W. Chase,
C. F. Huber,
A. A. Sterling,
Dr. H. N. Young,
Dr. F. P. Lenahan,
W. G. Harding,
T. F. Ryman,
Rev. W. D. Johnson,
Edward Mackin,
B. F. Maloney,
D. F. Carmody,
Evan Challis,
Ambrose West,
F. M. Kirby,
T. R. Hillard,
A. H. McClintock,
Thomas Darling,
C. Walter,
E. N. Carpenter,
C. F. Murray,
J. J. Becker,
W. D. Beers,
J. K. Weitzenkorn,
Charles Maurer,
H. G. Shupp,
James A. Goldsmith,
Charles J. Long,
E. W. Davis,
Charles E. Morgan,
T. A. Wright,
J. N. Conyngham,
J. A. Turner,
O. M. Lance,
Ernest F. Roth,
W. L. Foote,
Louis Tisch,
D. W. Jones,
Edward Gunster,
R. S. Mercur,
F. Lange,
J. M. Wilcox,
C. J. Capwell,
R. G. McDowell,
T. L. Newell,
C. H. Gillam,
W. S. Biddle,
George Butler, Esq.,
W. C. Shepherd,
Thomas Cassedy,
J. C. Bell,
Cornelius Reilly,
Fred. Goeringer,
Dr. A. D. Thomas,
C. B. Dougherty,
G. A. Smith,
James M. Coughlin,
Harold G. Frantz,
H. S. Smith.

Military Committee.

Gen. C. Bow Dougherty, *Chairman,*

Col. Asher Miner,
Col. E. B. Beaumont,
Col. Wm. Murphy,
Col. C. M. Rishel,
Maj. O. S. Parsons,
Maj. John S. Harding,
Capt. James C. Kenny,
R. G. McDowell,
Maj. Carleton C. Jones,
Maj. William Sharpe,
Mr. E. W. Marple,
Col. R. B. Ricketts,
C. J. Glasser,
Mr. W. L. Higgs,
Lieut. Ernest G. Smith,
Maj. Gordon Scott,
Hon. Geo. H. Troutman,
Maj. W. O. Coolbaugh,
Col. William C. Price,
Mr. Louis McDermott.

Historical Committee.

Rev. Horace E. Hayden, *Chairman,*

H. H. Ashley,
Richard Sharpe,
John S. Harding,
A. F. Derr,
J. B. Woodward,
F. C. Johnson,
H. B. Schooley.

Decorations Committee.

W. H. Reichard, *Chairman,* Fred. H. Gates, *Secretary,*

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T. C. North,
George F. Henry,
Giles Ross,
Edmund Weidman,
Bernard O'Rourke,
John Rinehimer,
Leo W. Long,
John Hance,
Harvey Weiss,
Dr. S. Warren Reichard,
D. H. Evans,
Frank Puckey,
Thos. McGourty,
A. C. Overpeck,
H. P. Fell,
Jacob S. Pettebone,
T. K. Sturdevant,
Thad. Ryman,
George Eckhardt,
Austin W. Betterly,
George Smith,
S. C. Reichard,
James F. Mundy,
George W. Walker,
C. C. Shiber,
Harry E. Weidner,
E. B. Jenkins,
John Zweible,
Silas E. Jones, Hazleton,
Walter McAvoy, "
Luther LeGrand,
Edward Abbott.

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H. B. Schooley,
B. F. Morgan,
John S. Harding,
Christopher Wren,
W. R. Ricketts,
Gen. H. W. Palmer,
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J. F. McGuire,
A. Newberry,
W. A. O'Neill,
H. M. Posten,
George Kraft,
J. Fred. Frace,
John Guiney,
H. F. Mooney,
M. J. McLaughlin,
C. W. Robinson,
B. F. Barnum,
George Heller,
J. F. Marley,
J. F. Shovlin,
Gen. C. B. Dougherty,
Wm. S. Dershimer.

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C. H. Derby.
Wm. T. Murphy.
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E. T. Giering,
P. P. Mangan.
P. S. Risdale.
John J. Maloney.
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Wesley Woodruff,
Austin W. Betterly.
Koustine Kijanski,
H. E. Gilpin,
Robert A. Quinn,
Bayard Hand, Esq.,
T. F. Heffernan,
Guy V. Moore,
M. J. O'Toole,
C. B. Boyle,
George A. Edwards.
P. J. Ramsey,
Arthur A. Casper,
George S. Boyle,
Frank Mankiewiz,
Edmond Uffalussy,
Evan C. Jones,
Guy Sturdevant,
Jos. E. Flietz,
L. A. Hammerling,
Carl T. Yetter,
R. M. Tubbs,
Wm. Evans,
Chas. K. Gloman,
Edward L. Lewith,
Paul Drippe,

Wm. H. Capwell, Dallas,
Wm. Dershuck, Hazleton,
Col. Harry Sweeny, Hazleton,
John Kraft, Hazleton,
D. B. Griffith, Nanticoke,
T. R. Callery, Nanticoke,
Wm. J. Peck, Pittston,
W. J. Devanney, Pittston,
Wilkes-Barré Press Club,
Scranton Press Club,
J. J. Shanley, Plymouth,
Jos. H. Swartz, Plymouth,
W. C. Taylor, White Haven,
W. R. Flad, Freeland,
Guy Sensenbach, Freeland,
D. S. Buckley, Freeland,
George Williams, Plymouth,
Prof. E. H. Scott, Plymouth.

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Evan Challis,
Wm. Kintzel,
Edward J. Hummel,
Wm. J. Kelly,
George M. Clause,
Francis Baker,
Dr. Nathaniel Ross,
C. E. Nagel,
A. R. Smith,
A. E. Burnaford,
Evan P. Howe,
Montie Levy,
Col. George T. Henry,
R. S. Meixel,
M. J. Walsh,
H. J. Hockenbury,
E. P. Howe,
F. J. Dougher,
George Buttner,
John Ney, Jr.,
Valentine Ell,
W. D. Jones,
Charles Heller,
Frank Guard,
——— Hull,
——— Aston.

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Harry Roth,
Arthur Lewis,
Frank Lewis,
Philip McManus,
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S. D. Warriner,
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H. H. Welles,
Richard Sharpe,
John R. Edgar,
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W. L. Conyngham,
Paul Bedford,
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Harry Jordan,
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W. C. Shepherd,
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Hon. G. S. Ferris,
Rev. J. J. Curran,
Rev. C. E. Mogg,
Rev. E. G. Fullerton,
James M. Coughlin.

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E. E. Burnaford,
L. W. Reid,
Leslie S. Ryman,
C. H. Gillam,
W. E. Barnwell,
P. M. Gilligan,
Col. Arthur Long,
Robert Sturdevant,
P. F. Kelly,
Fred. J. Stegmaier,
Lea Hunt,
Joseph A. Geyer,
Charles M. Helfrich,
Charles D. LeGrand,
B. E. Carr,
H. L. Moore,
S. T. Nicholson,
John Kaschenbach,
Russell Uhl,
H. H. Harvey,
F. M. Chase,
George H. Smith,
Charles Matheson,
S. W. Grover,
Walter S. Carpenter,
Alexander Hodge,
Percy Thomas,
Louis A. Schrage,
Harry Mooney,
David Griffiths,
E. T. Long,
George T. Dickover,
T. R. Hillard,
James A. Keating.

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George S. Bennett,
A. L. Williams,
Hon. F. C. Kirkendall,
Hon. H. W. Palmer,
Rev. Henry L. Jones,
Rev. Albert E. Piper,
Rev. R. A. McAndrews,
Rev. Alex. J. Kerr,
Rev. Marcus Salzman,
Rev. L. L. Sprague,
Frank A. Phelps,
Jos. K. Weitzenkorn,
Charles P. Hunt,
George J. Stegmaier,
Robert P. Broadhead,
Luther C. Darte,
James F. Mundy,
Frank J. Hemingway,
R. H. Richards,
J. N. Thompson,
Wm. C. Shepherd,
George A. Edwards,
Hon. George S. Ferris,
Hon. S. R. Catlin,
Rev. Edw. G. Fullerton,
Rev. B. F. G. McGee,
Rev. Willis H. Stone,
Rev. Curtis E. Mogg,
Rev. John G. Curran,
John C. Bridgman,
James M. Boland,
Ernest G. Smith,
A. E. Burnaford,
James M. Coughlin,
T. L. Newell,
John V. Kosek,
John Quin,
Charles G. Shiber,
R. Nelson Bennett,
T. M. McGourty,
Giles Ross,
P. A. Meixel,
Daniel H. Evans,
Hugh P. Fell,
James A. Hanlon,
Wm. B. Robinson,
Dr. Aston H. Morgan,
Dr. A. Gordon Finney,
J. Roberts, Jr.,
C. W. Sturdevant,
Wm. J. Kelly,
Patrick J. Clarke,
D. W. Jones,
Wm. Reichard,
B. F. O'Rourke,
John Rinehimer,
Hiram Smith,
Evan Challis,
George Walker,
Edgar L. Klipple,
Edwin B. Morgans,
George R. Goebel,
John A. Miller,
W. H. Gibbs.

Educational Committee.

James Hanlon, *Chairman*,

Dr. Guthrie,
Dr. Weaver,
Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Rutter,
Dr. Long,
Dr. Dodson,
James M. Coughlin,
J. P. Breidinger,
Thomas Santee,
S. W. Baird,
G. W. James,
C. F. Harvey,
D. L. O'Neill, Jr.,
Charles H. Weaver,
James F. Harton,
J. F. Smith,
R. B. Treible,
Wayne James,
John Shovlin,
Peter Conlon,
Karl Koemer,
Edward Philips,
John Samuels,
Claude Moss,
Charles Coxe,
Robert Smith.

Firemen's Committee.

Joseph G. Schuler, *Chairman,*

James E. Daley.
Frank Schappert,
Philip McManus.
Anthony Blaum.
Fred. Taylor,
R. M. Keiser,
Harry Emerson.
Richard Stephens.
Christian Haines.
George Walker.
D. W. Jones.
E. T. Roth,
Gus. Constine,
George J. Stegmaier,
James M. Rutter,
Isaac E. Long,
Marx Long,
Joseph Steinhauer,
Rufus Marcy,
Wm. Maurer,
Charles Maurer.
Daniel Carmody,
Robert Williams,
John Schneider,
Hugh Lawson,
Harry Gruver,
Joseph Fuerth,
Thomas North,
Herman Wagner.
George Norton,
A. Kropp,
John Son,
John Mericle,
Samuel Bartelson.

Music Committee.

Dr. Aston H. Morgan, *Chairman,*

Prof. J. I. Alexander,
Charles F. Pokorney,
Prof. Rowley.
Dan. R. George.
Prof. Griffith Jones,
Martin Freeman,
Oscar Smith.
Tudor Morgan,
Prof. John Lloyd Evans.
Frank B. Kelly.
Prof. Sam. Oppenheim,

Choral Committee.

J. B. Woodward, *Chairman,*

J. I. Alexander.
John Shepherd.
David James.
I. L. Kraft.
Nicholas Glasser.
Adolph Houser,
E. L. Hungerford,
Joseph Pissott.
D. J. Williams.
Wesley E. Woodruff.
A. C. Campbell.
Ernest G. Smith.
John Bauman,
Gwylim Amos.

Fantastic Committee.

C. M. Rishel, *Chairman and Chief Marshal,*
James Snee, *Vice-Chairman and Chief of Staff,*

Reuben Daley,
Henry Lazarus,
Harry Speece,
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